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North Carolina's electric cooperatives provide reliable, safe and affordable electric service to 850,000 homes, farms and businesses in North Carolina. The 27 electric cooperatives are each member-owned, not-for-profit and overseen by a board of directors elected by the membership.



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Carolina Country magazine is available monthly to members of North Carolina's electric cooperatives. If you are a member of one of these cooperatives but do not receive Carolina Country, you may request a subscription by calling Member Services at the office of your cooperative. If your address has changed, please inform your cooperative.

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On the Cover

"Short Rows." The grandsons of Bill Lea, a farmer in Eastwood (Moore County), after finishing the tobacco field's short rows. Photographed by Bill's daughter and their aunt, Donna Lea Ford, the boys are (from left): Blake Boyd, Nolan Lea, Tyler Lea and Joshua Lea. "Our family has grown tobacco for generations," says Donna, "and the children always help." The families are members of Randolph EMC.

See page 16 for more of your favorite photos.



By Tommy C. Greer

Electrical safety is no accident

They are some of the saddest news stories you'll ever see. In the local newspapers, they're almost always on page 1. They almost always make the local TV and radio news, too.

One evening in Dare County this summer, a 17-year-old boy who had recently graduated high school told his dad he was headed outside to work on his pickup truck. He used a droplight connected to an old cord that showed exposed wires. The boy was killed by electrocution. His mother found him out there the next morning. The Sheriff's Department investigator said it looked like the exposed cord had come in contact with the boy's chest.

In Chatham County this summer, someone in the family connected a window air-conditioner to a lightweight extension cord so they could keep cool that night. Too light to power that air-conditioner, the cord overheated and set a sofa on fire. All three adults and all three children in the house died in the fire that followed.

According to North Carolina's Fire Marshal Jim Long, electrical fires are the most common fire in the state. Overloading extension cords is one of the main causes.

We take electricity for granted every day of our lives. We flip a switch, and the light goes on. We turn the dial on the stovetop, and the burner heats up. We plug in the drill, and the bit spins. Children know how to turn on household electric power. What we need to think about each time is how powerful that power can be.

Any amount of current that runs through your house is strong enough to burn you, hurt you seriously, or kill you.

We do not mean that you should be scared of electricity, only that you respect its power. That means ensuring that all your electrical wiring, outlets, cords and appliances are in safe working order. Staying safe around electricity is not difficult. It only requires that you look around you and use common sense.

- **IF** your lights flicker often, or your circuit breaker trips often, you should have your household wiring inspected by a licensed electrician or electrical inspector. If your wall switches or outlets are unusually warm to the touch, have them inspected, too.
- **DON'T** attach heavy appliances to common extension cords. Overloading those cords will cause them to overheat.
- **DON'T** run extension cords under a rug or anywhere you can't see signs of fraying.
- **IF** you notice any frayed cord, or any exposed wiring, replace it immediately. Don't use it.
- **MAKE** sure the wattage of a light bulb matches the wattage of the lamp. Using a higher wattage bulb can overheat the system.
- **KEEP** electric heaters – and any heaters – away from anything flammable, such as paper or curtains.

North Carolina's electric cooperatives appreciate the attention that Gov. Mike Easley, his administration, and local officials statewide are focusing on this issue by declaring September as Electrical Safety Month.

Your electric cooperative focuses on electrical safety every day. We are very serious about providing safe electric power. All cooperative employees are trained on a regular basis in the safe use of electricity. Those who work on the line crews spend hundreds of hours in training to build, maintain and repair the cooperative's electric distribution system. They continually update their training as well. All aspects of an electric cooperative's business are inspected regularly to keep them up to very strict standards.

Safety comes first in all that we do. We hope that safety comes first for you and your family as well.

Tommy C. Greer is director of Job Training and Safety for the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives.

Thanks to Glenwood and Nancy



A dynamo duo, Glenwood and Nancy Outlaw, decided to help conserve and protect our universe by recycling and selling aluminum cans. They help to support Central Children's Home, founded in 1883 in Oxford. The home is the second oldest children's home in North Carolina and the oldest black children's home in the United States.

Aluminum can recycling has become a billion-dollar business and one of the world's most successful environmental enterprises. Recycling has diverted 2 billion pounds from landfills and has saved enough energy to light entire cities. Aluminum can recycling saves 95 percent of the energy needed to make aluminum from bauxite ore.

Glenwood and Nancy Outlaw have contributed more than \$12,000 to Central Children's Home and other worthy organizations since 1992.

*Sarah L. Coggins
Windsor*

Roanoke Electric Cooperative

Lots of love

When I had my 70th birthday party, my three children and some of my grandchildren gave me a big party. My son Max and his wife and daughter went to a shopping



center and got me a crown and said I was "queen for a day." They got shade glasses and lots of other things. They made me a pretty cake and ice cream and gave me lots of presents. They gathered around me and sang "Happy Birthday" and blew whistles. Not all of them got into the picture. Lots of love was shown that day.

*Geneva Jarrell Brown
Asheboro
Randolph EMC*

Recipes and classifieds

I just want to say I love the Carolina Country magazine. I especially enjoy the recipes. Those that I like better are the old-timey ones like I enjoyed eating when I was younger. I encourage more people who have that sort of recipe to send them in so younger people can know what good eating is all about.

It is a good thing, too, that you have classified ads, so we can reach such a vast area.

*Gail Shatley
Lenoir*

How communities can prosper

Thank you for the recent article "Economic Development Benefits Everyone" that you included in your August 2002 issue [Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative version].

Carteret-Craven Electric has been a partner in the growth of our community, and shared the dream that Don Kirkman, our local leaders, Branch Bank, and all of us at Jarrett Bay Boatworks had to build a one-of-a-kind marine service facility. The initiative Carteret-Craven Electric took played a vital role in the success of the Marine Industrial Park. To date more than 200 jobs have been added in Carteret County, and new businesses locate here regularly.

Thanks to Craig Conrad, Gary Zajac and all those who make Carteret-Craven Electric a great partner in the community.

*Randy Ramsey, president
Jarrett Bay Boatworks, Inc.
Beaufort*

How communities can prosper, too

Oakboro Regional Museum sends many thanks for helping us advertise our Oakboro July 4th Celebration. It was an overwhelming success. The crowds were unbelievable. We had calls from beyond our small Oakboro region planning to attend the celebration because of your help with publicizing it. Thank you so much for all you have done in support of our museum.

*Claudette Love, director
Oakboro Regional Museum of History*

Disaster Reserves are growing

Thank you so very much for the wonderful article about the North Carolina Disaster Reservists program [July 2002]. We have received numerous telephone responses due to your publication. You enabled us to reach so many folks who are sincerely willing to give of themselves and their expertise to help communities recover from disasters. Our cadre is now 74 strong.

*Victoria L. Matthews, director
N.C. Disaster Reservist Program
Raleigh
vmatthews@ncemc.org*

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Cooperatives showed "the power of human connections" last year after the terrorist attacks

As shock and grief mobilized communities nationwide following the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C., North Carolina electric cooperatives responded in their own communities. The response demonstrated the "Power of Human Connections," a phrase used to define Touchstone Energy nationally.

Many cooperatives contributed substantial donations to their local chapters of the American Red Cross, as well as other aid organizations.

The North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (the statewide organization of the state's cooperatives) established the "Power of Human Connections Fund" which would accept donations from staff, co-op directors and consumer-members. The fund was publicized via Carolina Country magazine, local co-op newsletters and press notices.

NCEMC's affiliate, TSE Services, provided back-office services for 1st Rochdale Group, Ltd., a Touchstone Energy cooperative that provides electricity and energy services to more than 200 neighborhoods in New York City and Westchester County. 1st Rochdale is headquartered 15 blocks from the World Trade Center site, and the offices were off-limits for more than a week. Telephone service was disrupted for more than a month after Sept. 11. North Carolina's Wake EMC staffed 1st Rochdale's call center during the chaos following

Sept. 11. Wake EMC and Piedmont EMC, another North Carolina co-op based in Hillsborough, shared the New York City co-op's billing services.

"Through it all, North Carolina's electric cooperatives kept our operations running without interruption," said 1st Rochdale CEO Allen Thurgood. "Their service then, as always, has been invaluable to 1st Rochdale and our New York members."

North Carolina's co-ops joined many others in contributing to the Cooperative Development Foundation's September 11 Relief Fund, Hatzolah Ambulance Service, and New York Police and Fire Widows' and Children's Benefit Fund. Hatzolah is a volunteer advanced paramedic ambulance corps serving New York City, including the cooperative housing community surrounding 1st Rochdale.

Chuck Terrill, NCEMC's CEO, pledged financial assistance from its Power of Human Connections Fund. "Manhattan's 1st Rochdale Cooperative Group contributed generously to our fund after so many of our employees and members were affected by Hurricane Floyd. We all are well aware of the importance volunteer rescue squads play in the communities served by our own cooperatives. It seems appropriate that we come to the assistance of Hatzolah Ambulance Service, which serves such a vital role."

Bright Ideas teacher grants are due



North Carolina's electric cooperatives are preparing to review applications for grants from the statewide Bright Ideas grant program for educators. Deadlines are in September and October, according to the guidelines set by the electric cooperative serving the area where the school is located.

Contact your cooperative for deadline information. Grants of up to \$2,000 are given for innovative projects that educators can't otherwise fund through normal channels.

An applicant must be a teacher in a North Carolina certified K-12 school. The school principal must review and approve the proposal. Proposed projects must directly involve students and provide ongoing benefits to students.

September is North Carolina Electrical Safety Month

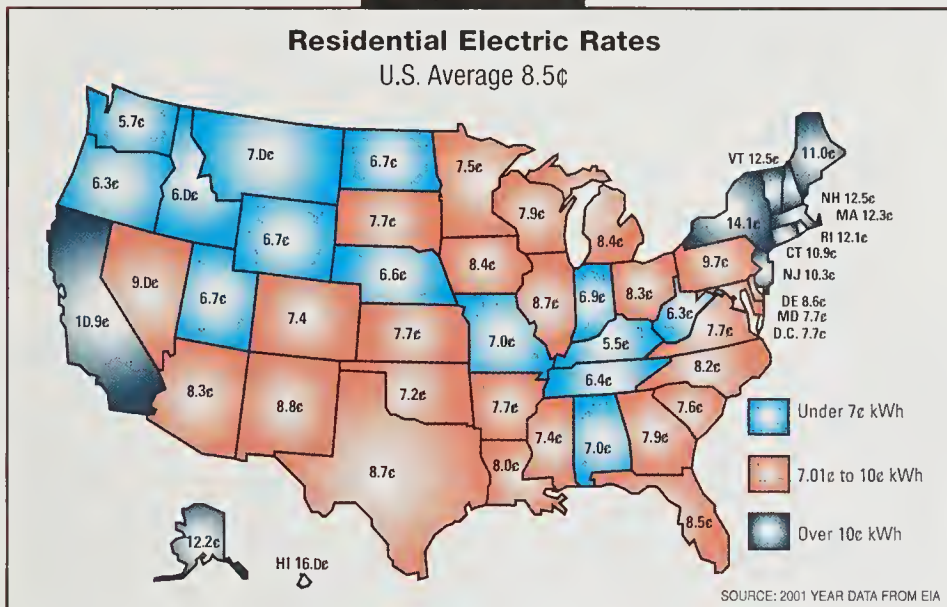
North Carolina's electric cooperatives statewide are observing September as North Carolina Electrical Safety Month. This is a new addition to the North Carolina's electric cooperatives' safety efforts, even though safety has always been a yearlong effort, as well as a high priority.

According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International, one person dies and nearly four are injured every day due to residential home fires caused by problems with home electrical wiring systems. In the year 2000, more than five people each week were electrocuted on the job. North Carolina became part of these statistics this year because of the tragic Chatham County fire that spawned from an overloaded extension cord. To help prevent more electrical-related deaths, North Carolina's electric cooperatives are raising awareness of electrical safety across the state and asked Governor Michael Easley to proclaim September as North Carolina Electrical Safety Month.

Tommy Greer, director of Job Training and Safety for the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, said, "The month of September is a perfect time for consumers to reacquaint themselves with safety basics, such as reading safety instructions on electrical appliances and products, paying attention to safety markings on electrical equipment and checking power cords to see if they are in safe condition to use in homes and offices."

During September, cooperatives across the state will help raise awareness of electrical safety in the home, school and workplace and teach the public not to take electricity for granted. The co-ops will work to educate the public about the importance of respecting electricity through engaging in proactive electrical safety efforts. The co-ops' safety efforts vary and include hosting electrical safety workshops, publishing safety information in their newsletters, and distributing other literature on electrical safety.

INFOGRAPH




The Pacific Northwest and Tennessee Valley have the lowest rates; New England and Hawaii, the highest.

Governor appoints South River Electric's CEO to state electrification authority



Buddy G. Creed

Gov. Mike Easley in July appointed Buddy G. Creed, vice president and CEO of South River Electric Membership Corporation in Dunn, to the board of directors of the North Carolina Rural Electrification Authority. He succeeds William K. Taylor of Statesville. Mr. Taylor served nine years on the board and decided not to seek re-appointment this year.

 Buddy G. Creed

The NCREA is a state government authority within the Department of Commerce. Its responsibilities include ensuring that customers in the predominantly rural areas of the state have access to adequate, dependable, affordable electric and telephone service. The NCREA reviews electric and telephone cooperatives' federal loan applications and hears consumer comments on service issues.

Mr. Creed joins four other board members: chair Alice E. Wilson of Oak City, a director of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, Tarboro; vice chair L. Calvin Duncan of Clarkton, a director of Brunswick EMC, Supply; Joseph G. Justice of Hot Springs, a director of French Broad EMC, Madison; and Molly C. Gambill of Crumpler, a director of Skyline Telephone Membership Corp., West Jefferson.

The NCREA office is in the Dobbs Building in Raleigh. Executive manager is Inez C. McLean.

Co-ops set record for power demand

The peak electricity demand for North Carolina's electric cooperatives hit a record on July 29, 2002. The demand for power among 26 of the state's cooperatives rose to more than 3,300 megawatts (mw), which broke the previous peak demand record of 3,210 mw, set on January 3, 2001.

Weather was the driving factor behind the record. The July 29 heat index was above 100 degrees and, when combined with warm overnight temperatures, the ingredients were in place for the record-setting day.

North Carolina's electric cooperatives' power requirements are monitored continuously by their power supply cooperative, the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, and its power marketing cooperative, the Alliance of Cooperative Energy Suppliers.

Watch out for the “Do Not Call” scam

Con artists have found a way to take advantage of the “Do Not Call” list and have scammed consumers into giving up personal information, such as their Social Security numbers, bank account numbers, credit card numbers or telephone calling card numbers.

According to ConsumerAffairs.com, the scam works like this: Someone calls you claiming to be from a “Do Not Call” registry or the Federal Trade Commission, which has proposed establishing a national “Do Not Call” list. The person claiming to be an “official” asks for your personal information in order to verify that you are on the list. The “official” in this case is a scam artist who then uses your personal information to run up debts in your name or steal your identity.

In actuality, once a consumer signs up with a state's Do Not Call registry, consumers do not need to confirm personal information, according to ConsumerAffairs.com.

The National Association of Attorneys General, the Direct Marketing Association, the National Consumers League, and the American Association of Retired Persons recommend that consumers take the following steps to avoid the Do Not Call scam:

- Do not give out any information when someone calls claiming to represent a Do Not Call registry or the FTC. Hang up immediately.
- Keep information about bank accounts and credit cards to yourself unless you know the person with whom you are sharing.
- Never share your Social Security number with a person you don't know.

“What is a cooperative?”

Cooperatives worldwide function within the same principles. They are businesses that operate for the benefit of their members, instead of for financial profit. They abide by a common set of values and by seven principles. Here is Principle No. 7.

Principle No. 7. Concern for Community —

While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members.

What the well-dressed electric cooperative lineman is wearing

Ear Protection: \$20.43

Mounts into hard hat slots and has replaceable foam cushions. Different types have different Noise Reduction Ratings—usually a 20-30 decibel reduction.

Safety Glasses: \$3.25

Nylon, one-piece frame with side panels for added protection. Sunglasses are a necessity against hazardous sun glare, particularly when working on energized lines.

Rubber Glove Protectors: \$28.40

Leather gloves with Velcro tightening strap and attached orange vinyl cuff. Worn over insulated rubber glove to reduce chance of puncture or tearing from sharp objects.

Safety Harness: \$109.90

Full body harness for working in elevated bucket. Harness attaches to bucket truck boom with locking snap hook.

Lanyard: \$54.15

Nylon strap with locking snap hooks connects lineman's safety harness to truck boom to prevent falling.

Hinged Hot Stick: \$300.00

Insulated, dielectric-tested fiberglass tool for moving or adjusting live electrical equipment.



Work Boots: \$165.10

Lace-to-toe, steel- or ceramic-toe leather boots with extra arch support for climbing.

Hard Hat: \$10.92

Made from hard plastic with inner web suspension system; has universal slots to attach accessories such as ear muffs. Extended brim protects face from falling debris. Factory-tested for dielectric strength and discarded before dielectric breakdown.

Arm Protector Sleeves: \$282.93

Dielectric-tested, seamless, vulcanized molded rubber that protects wearer's arms from unintentional contact with energized power source.

Shirt: \$31.40

Long-sleeved, 100% cotton fabric and stitching with nonmetallic buttons. Requires industrial wash with no soap or chlorine bleach to maintain flame-retardant finish.

Rubber Liner Gloves: \$104.90

Dielectric-tested, rubber liner insulated gloves for electrical protection. Glove thickness dictates the level of voltage line personnel may work. Ratings: Class I—10,000 volts, Class II—20,000 volts, Class III—30,000 volts and Class IV—40,000 volts.

Trousers: \$21.45

Trousers or jeans made from 100% natural fibers, such as denim, cotton duck or wool. Trousers must be flame retardant.

Total cost to outfit the lineman: \$1,132.83, a fair price for safety.



Ready for the rain

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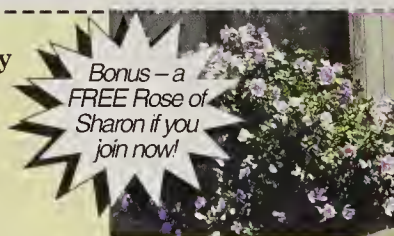


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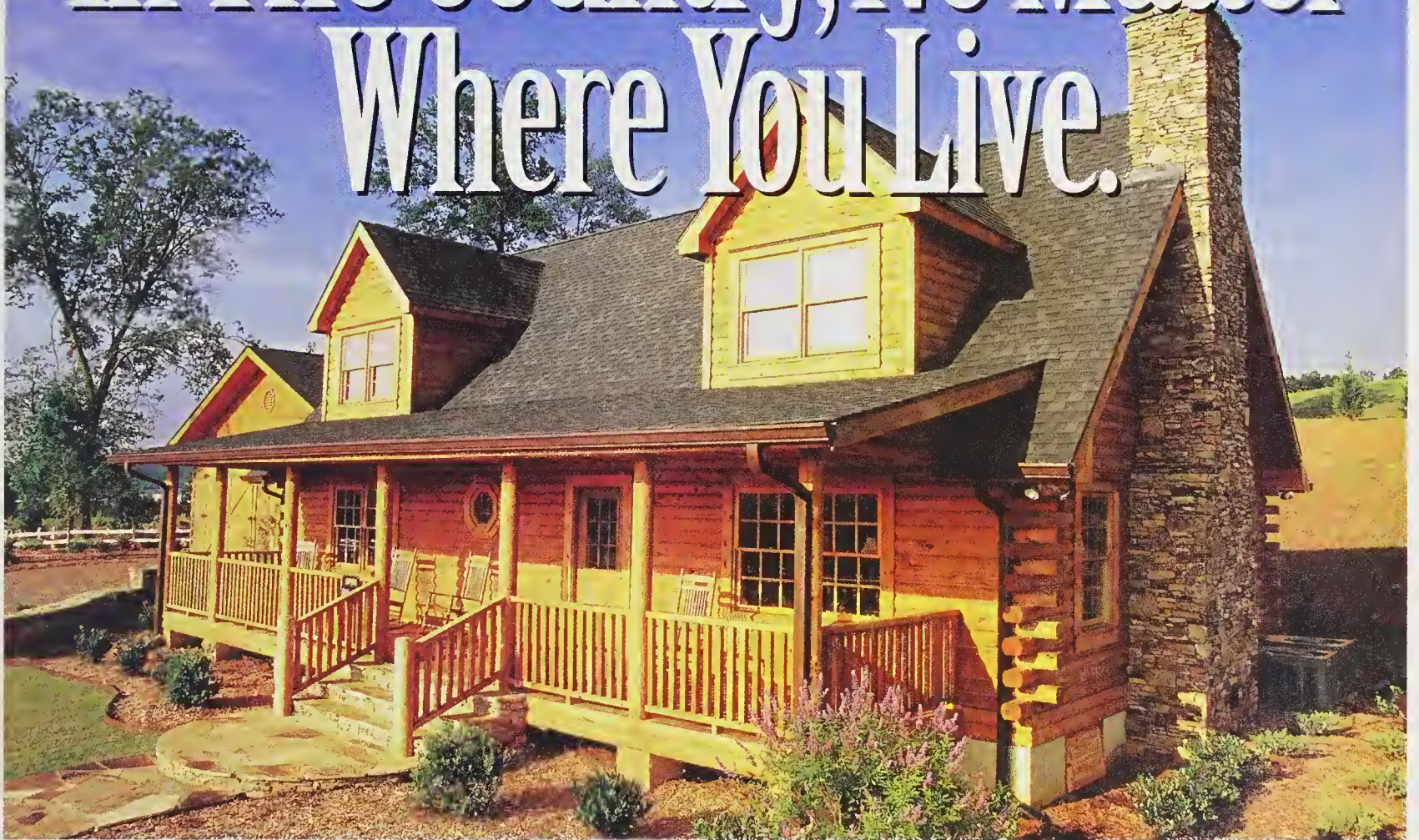
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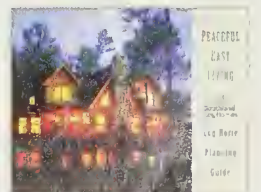
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CC-09

Why can a **BIRD** sit on a **power line**?

Answers to this and other questions about electricity and safety.

Illustrated by Nicole L. Ferrari

1. A bird can sit on a power line and not be electrocuted because

- A. It is not touching the ground.
- B. It has no metallic substance in its body.
- C. It has no water in its body.
- D. Its feathers act as insulation.

2. A live electric line has fallen on your car while you're in the car. What's the safest thing you can do?

- A. Get out and run.
- B. Get out and walk away.
- C. Get out and crawl away.
- D. Stay in your car.

3. True or False:

Power lines coming from a pole transformer to your house are covered with insulation and are OK to touch.

4. What was the number one cause of death during Hurricane Bertha in 1996?

- A. Falling trees.
- B. Drowning.
- C. Electrocution.
- D. Carbon monoxide poisoning.

5. True or False:

It is safe to climb a tree located near a power line as long as the limbs aren't touching the line.

6. True or False:

It is safe to touch a power line with a pole, as long as the pole is made of plastic.



7. If you see a downed power line or low-hanging power line, you should:

- A. Move it out of the way and call your local electric cooperative.
- B. Stay clear and call the electric cooperative immediately.
- C. Don't worry about it, because your cooperative already knows about it.

8. How much voltage is needed to hurt or kill people?

- A. 120 volts.
- B. 240 volts.
- C. More than 240 volts.
- D. Any voltage.

9. Which of the following can conduct electricity?

- A. Metal.
- B. Tree limbs.
- C. Human body.
- D. All of the above.

10. Electricity travels at the rate of:

- A. 120 miles per hour.
- B. 2,800 feet per second.
- C. 186,300 miles per second.

11. True or False:

It's OK to store flammable materials near electrical equipment such as wall switches or power equipment because they don't cause sparks.

12. Where is the safest place to be during a lightning storm?

- A. In a car.
- B. In the middle of a field with no trees.
- C. In a house.
- D. Lying face down on the ground.

13. True or False:

Using a telephone during a lightning storm is dangerous.

14. The average number of people who die in the United States each year from being struck by lightning is about how many?

- A. 10.
- B. 100.
- C. 1,000.
- D. 100,000.

15. Who is struck by lightning and killed most often?

- A. Golfers.
- B. Fishermen.
- C. Farmers.
- D. Joggers.

16. True or False:

All overhead power lines are completely insulated.

17. True or False:

Water is the best conductor of electricity.

18. True or False:

It is OK to use an appliance connected to an electric cord while taking a bath or shower as long as the cord is insulated and the power is shut off.

19. Most utility power lines are:

- A. Bare and dangerous to touch.
- B. Insulated and touchable.
- C. Bare but OK to touch.

20. A 4,000-watt portable generator is big enough to power which equipment during a power outage?

- A. A refrigerator/freezer.
- B. An electric water heater.
- C. A 20,000 BTU air conditioner.
- D. A and B.
- E. A, B and C.
- F. None of the above

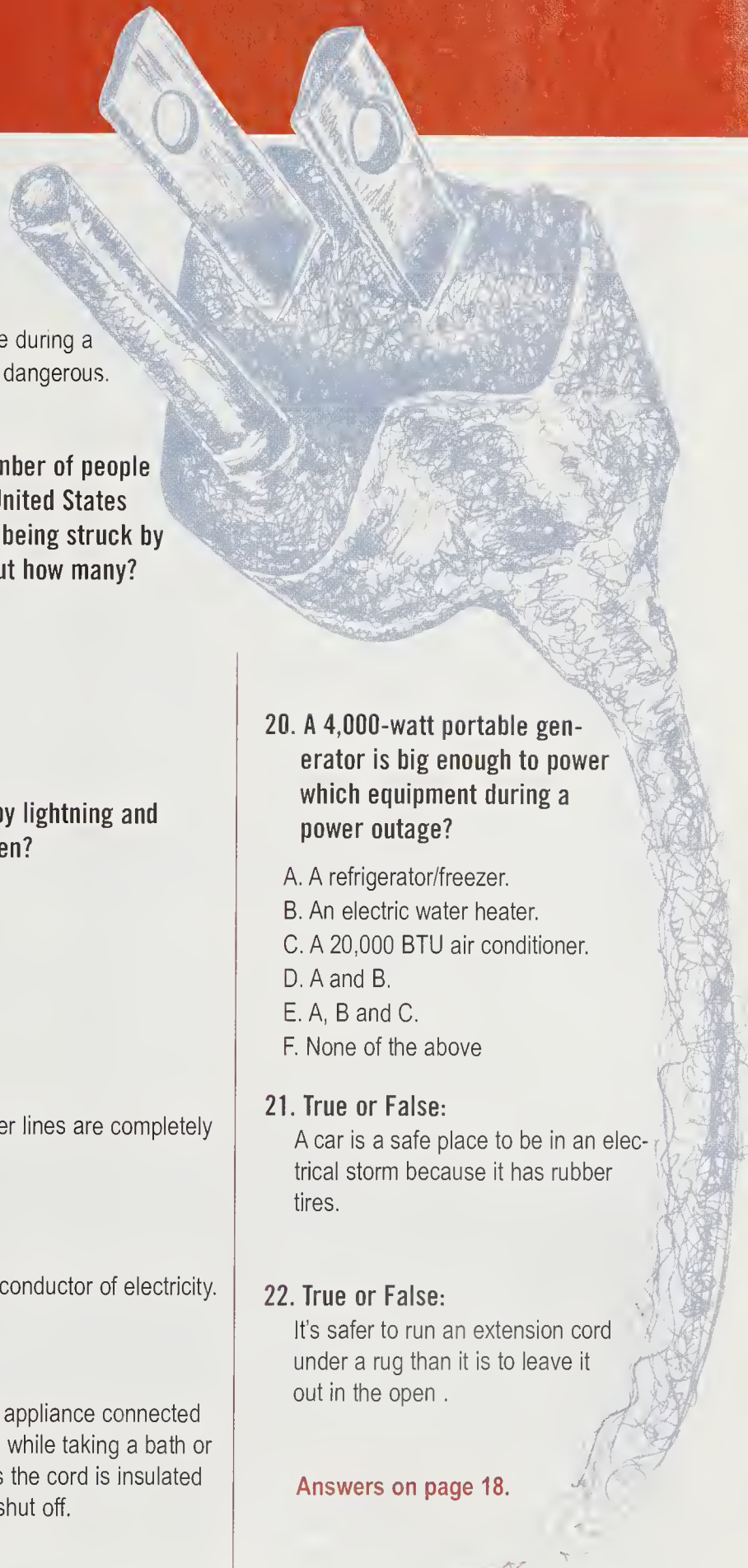
21. True or False:

A car is a safe place to be in an electrical storm because it has rubber tires.

22. True or False:

It's safer to run an extension cord under a rug than it is to leave it out in the open .

Answers on page 18.



ANSWERS

1. A. Birds can safely sit on power wires because birds are not touching the ground or any other grounded object. The same wire could kill a person standing on the ground or on the pole.

2. D. Stay in the car until help arrives. It is dangerous to try to escape the vehicle with a live electric line on the car.

3. False. Power lines coming from the pole transformer to your house may be covered in insulation, but they're not OK to touch. Always stay away from power lines.

4. C. Electricution. Some people did not properly ground their emergency generators. But it's also interesting to note that 12 people were sent to Duke Hospitals for carbon monoxide poisoning because their generators didn't have adequate ventilation and poisonous gases affected the users.

5. False. It is not safe to climb a tree located near a power line at any time. Electricity has the ability to "jump" from the power line to the tree, and could electrocute someone in the tree.

6. False. It is not safe to touch a power line with any pole, antenna or other object.

7. B. If you see a downed power line or a low-hanging one, you should stay clear and call your electric cooperative immediately.

8. D. Any voltage can hurt or kill people.

9. D. Metal, tree limbs and the human body can all conduct electricity.

10. C. Electricity travels at the rate of 186,300 miles per second (the speed of light).

11. False. It is unsafe to store flammable materials near any electrical equipment, because a spark could jump unexpectedly.

12. C. By far the safest place to be during an electrical storm is in a house or building. The metal plumbing and wiring in the walls of the building form a protective barrier. It is important to remember not to be touching that metallic

"cage," which means staying away from electrical appliances, plumbing fixtures and wiring during an electrical storm.

13. True. Lightning can strike telephone and electrical wires and travel into your house, through your phone cord, into your telephone and into the handset.

Cordless phones are not dangerous because there is no physical connection to the wires. But you should not use your cordless phone during an electrical storm to call your neighbor who may not have a cordless phone.

14. B. About 100 people die each year in the United States as the result of being struck by a lightning bolt.

15. C. According to a study by Dr. Martin A. Uman, in his 1971 book, "Understanding Lightning," 29 percent of those killed were farmers, compared to 19 percent who were golfers and about 15 percent who were fishermen. Joggers were not mentioned in the study.

16. False. Not all overhead power lines are insulated. Many overhead lines are partially insulated, but they are still dangerous to touch.

17. False. Silver is the best conductor, but water is a good one and does carry electrical current.

18. False. Water can conduct an electrical shock from an electrical cord whether or not the cord is insulated or powered.

19. A. Most electric utility lines are bare and dangerous to touch.



20. D. Portable generators must be rated large enough to power the starting wattage of the entire load of equipment connected to them. Starting wattage requirements are greater than running wattage requirements in most large electrical appliances. A 4,000-watt generator is not big enough to start a 20,000 BTU air conditioner, which typically requires more than 7,000 watts to start. Using an undersized generator could cause damage to the user, the appliances and the generator. Be sure to check the wattage requirement of any appliance you plan to power by a generator.

21. False. While cars are a very safe place to be, it is not the tires that protect you. Your tires would have to be about a mile thick and made of solid rubber to afford you adequate protection. It is actually the metal that is surrounding you that affords the protection. This is due to something called the "skin effect," which means that electricity, like lightning, will travel only on the surface of enclosed metal objects. So while your car may be hit by lightning, as long as you stay inside, you are safe, provided that you have a metal car that is not a convertible.

22. False. If a cord runs under a rug, you can't inspect it for damage, and an overheated one can ignite floor covering. Remember: an extension cord is not a substitute for household wiring. Use heavy duty cords. Replace them if they are frayed. Do not overload them.

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Lee Swanson,
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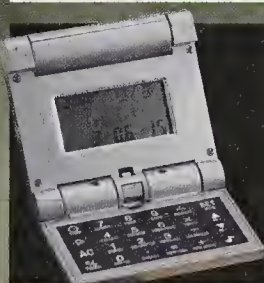
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2002 CAROLINA COUNTRY Scenes

1 Popsicle!

This is our granddaughter Cecilia Thomas enjoying her first Popsicle.

Sheryl and Tony Poplstein
Huntersville
EnergyUnited

2 One lick for you, two licks for me

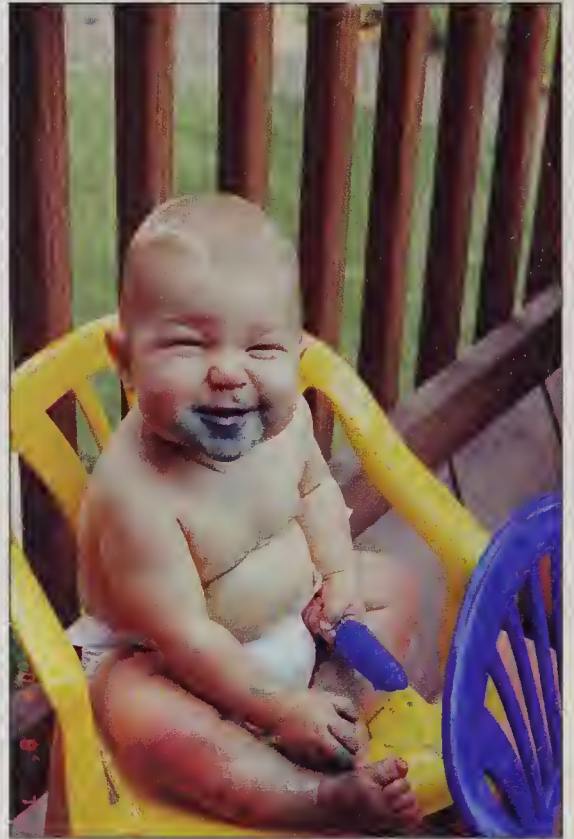
My husband and I are blessed to have six beautiful grandchildren, from 11½ years to 7 months old. In this picture, three of them were younger than they are now. It was a Sunday afternoon when all our children and grandchildren were home to celebrate Fathers Day. It was so very hot, about 98 degrees, and the kids had been playing outside all afternoon. Late in the afternoon, they all wanted a Tootsie Pop, knowing that Grandma had a stash for them. I told them that if they would go sit on the porch, I would bring them a Tootsie Pop and they could cool off. They marched themselves around to the front porch and sat there waiting patiently, and I brought them all a Tootsie Pop. About 10 minutes later, I went out to join them on the porch and they were giggling. Randall, the oldest, had managed to get himself in the middle of the two little ones, who were taking a look at their suckers and then giving him a lick, too. Needless to say, all their faces were covered in hot, sticky Tootsie Pop.

Galores H. Billingsley
Peachland
Pee Dee EMC

Here is a selection of photos that you sent to us for our annual September photo gallery. We received about 200. Thanks to everyone who sent in pictures. (We're returning those that arrived with self-addressed, stamped envelopes.)

We've decided to extend our "Nothing Could Be Finer" series through 2003, including the photo gallery. Reading and publishing your stories and pictures each month reinforces the idea that members of North Carolina electric cooperatives are one big family. I wish we could publish more, but our space is limited. For a list of next year's themes, see page 24.

— Michael E.C. Gery



1



1 Golden girl

My son Kenny Gobble and his family were house hunting in the Hamptonville area of Yadkin County when they came upon this golden straw field. Their daughter, Emma, age 5, was fascinated and had to explore it when her Dad took this picture. Emma is almost 8 now and just as inquisitive.

Joyce Gobble
Hamptonville
EnergyUnited

2 In the air, on land and sea

I love how the solitary Marine is offset by the sand, surf and sky. I also like the long shadow.

Sandra Walker
Sparta
Blue Ridge Electric

3 Criterium Bike Race in Uptown Shelby

David Westphalen
Lawndale
Rutherford EMC

4 Aurora borealis in Stanly County

My wife, Charlanne, and I had just returned from a trip to Churchill, Manitoba, in mid-October to view polar bears. We hoped also to see some Northern Lights (aurora borealis), since Churchill is one of the best places in the world to view them due to the close proximity to the magnetic North Pole. Unfortunately, every night was cloudy so we never saw a thing. Imagine our surprise to see this incredible display

the evening of November 5 from our own front yard near New London, N.C. Aurora is extremely rare in North Carolina due to our southern latitude, but this was a strong display around 10 p.m.

Bill Tippet
New London
Union Power
Cooperative

2



3



4



1 **Spring chicks**

Bailey (left) and Peyton Nichols are two of my granddaughters. Their parents are Rick and Deede Nichols. Peyton is like her dad, a mover and shaker. She is always doing something. "I can do it myself" is her favorite phrase. Bailey is like her mom and dad, tender-hearted for any animal that comes along. They have two dogs, Copper and Amber, and two cats, Gizzie and Socks, a stray kitten they just took in and nine chickens that all have names.

Fran Smith
Hays
Surry-Yadkin EMC



2 **Grape juice**

Our granddaughter, Bailey Oliva Elliott, loves her PaPa's grapes in the yard.

Sam and Edna Elliott
Marion
Rutherford EMC



3 **Woodys at rest**

"Be still" is not a phrase that usually applies to the Woody boys. They are typical boys through and through, always full of life, always cutting up and acting silly, always ready for a challenge. They are the grandchildren of my neighbors, Sammy and Cathy Woody. The boys names are, from left, Cody Woody (age 7), Skylar Woody (age 9) and Colton Woody (age 7). Their grandparents and I live in the Dysartsville community of Nebo. The boys live in Marion.

Rebekah Barnett Woody
Dysartsville
Rutherford EMC



1



1 Everybody in the water!

Several years ago, my son Tim, his wife Lori, and my two granddaughters, Pamela and Lydia, drove down from Vermont to visit me in North Carolina. Each day I would take them to scenic areas here in the mountains. I thought that I would save the last day for a picnic and swim at a place nearby where a high waterfall flows into a natural swimming pool. My son was making sure that we had everything before we left — food, air mattress, tire tubes — when Pamela came into the kitchen holding my dog Pedro and announced that Pedro is all set to go into the water, too.

Arden Yunger
Murphy
Blue Ridge Mtn. EMC

2



2 Twin Liberties

This photo was taken about two weeks before September 11 of last year. We should have been in New York City just days before September 11, but because of a schedule “mix-up” with my husband’s vacation, we left earlier than originally planned.

My family and I began our vacation/homeschool field trip last August. We traveled from North Carolina to New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts and finally to New Brunswick, Canada.

This photo was taken after visiting the Statue of Liberty on the New Jersey side of the Hudson River. We paused to take a few photos with the New York skyline as our backdrop. This one, of course, has our “twin Statues of Liberty” with the “twin towers” behind them. Little did we know just how much this would mean to us in the future.

I believe my children, Miranda (age 12) and Meredith (age 8), have learned in the worst way what it means to be an American. We all have gained a greater appreciation for each other and are thankful to God that we live in a country where we have so many freedoms.

Kelly Brown
Indian Trail
Union Power

3



3 Three guys and a tractor

How quickly life passes before our eyes. The picture on the top was taken in 1982, the other one in 2000. Today, the little boys, Michael Beaver (left) and Matt Beaver (right) have grown up to be young men. Grandpa Beaver, my Dad, is now 82.

The old 8N Ford tractor, which is a 1950 model, was running when these photos were taken, but now it needs some repairs. I remember it from before I started school in 1956, when Dad did a little farming and raised chickens.

Tell your children and your parents you love them, because life goes by so quickly.

Dennis M. Beaver
Wingate
Pee Dee Electric





1 Nuts to you

Our family will never forget Kiwi. She was such a cantankerous cat. She died peacefully at age 20. This photo shows her personality. She would have gloated over the fact that a glass pane stood between a visiting squirrel and his intended lunch. I won't say she is the reason the window slammed shut before the squirrel got to the peanuts but. . .

Patricia A. Wilson
Raeford
Lumbie River EMC

2 The last of the lemon pie

I've always considered myself blessed to live in our country's "Bible Belt." In the South, little old country churches are synonymous with good preaching, good times and especially good fellowship. My church, Berea Advent Christian, established in 1875, is no exception.

Last year we celebrated Heritage Day. Churchgoers dressed up as our forefathers did many years ago. Ladies wore pretty bonnets and long dresses with lace collars. Men wore blue jean overalls with white starched shirts. After the morning worship service, we gathered together for fellowship and, of course, to eat.

Desserts usually disappear first. I was sitting across from my aunt and cousin, who were discussing my aunt's favorite dessert, lemon pie. As you can see by her reaction, Aunt Kay wasn't too happy when she discovered Cousin Larry eating the last piece.

Jennifer Branch-Saylor
Lenoir
Blue Ridge EMC

SEND us your best. Earn \$50.

Here are the themes in our "Nothing Could Be Finer" series. Send us your stories and pictures. You don't have to be the best writer. Just tell it from your heart.

November 2002

"The Dumbest Thing I Ever Did."
And the lesson you learned afterwards.
Deadline: Sept. 15

December 2002

"Advice for Getting Older."
How can we age gracefully?
Deadline: Oct. 15

January 2003

"The Finest Moment in North Carolina Sports"
Was it in basketball, racing, golf, horseshoes?
Deadline: Nov. 15

July 2003

"Why I Went Back to School"
What was your most meaningful adult education experience?
Deadline: May 15

February 2003

"My Favorite Technology"
Kids writing only. Anyone under age 18.
Deadline: Dec. 15

August 2003

"The Funniest Story I Ever Heard"
True, or not so true.
Deadline: June 15

March 2003

"My Tips for Good Gardening"
Tell us the technique that makes your garden grow.
Deadline: Jan. 15

September 2003

"My Favorite Photo"
Our annual photo gallery of North Carolina people and places.
Deadline: July 15

April 2003

"Best North Carolina Vacation — Off the Beaten Path"
Where, why and send pictures.
Deadline: Feb. 15

October 2003

"Why I Like My Electric Cooperative"
Is a cooperative different than other utilities?
Deadline: August 15

May 2003

"We Actually Saw a Wild. . ."
Tell us about what you saw in the North Carolina wilderness.
Deadline: March 15

November 2003

"The Finest Neighbor I Ever Knew"
Tell us why and send a photo.
Deadline: Sept. 15

June 2003

"The Finest Food in North Carolina"
If you had to pick one North Carolina specialty, what would it be and why?
Deadline: April 15

December 2003

"How to Live a Long and Happy Life"
Do you know an older person who sets a good example for staying healthy and happy? Send a photo, too.
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1. Approximately 200 words or less.
2. Only one entry per household per month.
3. Photos are welcome. Digital photos must be 300 dpi and actual size.
4. E-mail or typed, if possible. Otherwise, make it legible.
5. Include your name, electric co-op, mailing address and phone number.
6. If you want your entry returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. (We will not return others.)
7. We pay \$50 for each submission published.
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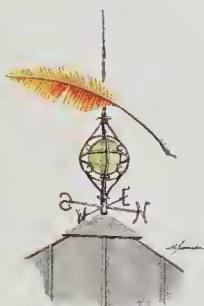
“Studio Moon”

by

BOB TIMBERLAKE

THE BOB TIMBERLAKE GALLERY is pleased to announce Bob Timberlake's most recent time-limited reproduction entitled “Studio Moon”. This beautiful reproduction is being offered as a special time-limited edition with orders being accepted from September 16th through November 16th, 2002.

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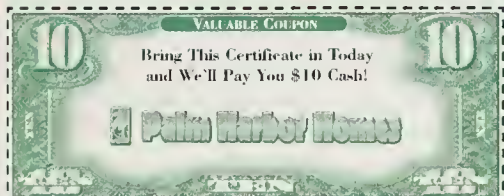
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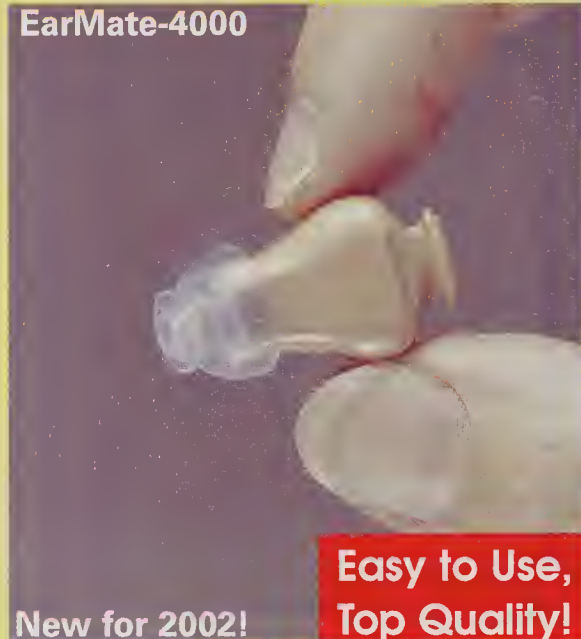
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Low-cost, motion-sensing lights are good for security and your wallet

By James Dulley

Motion-sensing lights can enhance security at any home. The newer models are reasonably priced and have sensitive, controllable motion sensors and timers. By using motion-sensing security lighting, your annual electric bills savings can be more than \$100 as compared to using just three 150-watt floodlights all night.

Nothing scares would-be thieves away faster than having a bright light come on and shine in their eyes. Not only are they instantly blinded, but the thieves think the homeowner has detected them and switched on an outdoor light. With the bright light shining outward, the small motion sensor lens on the light fixture is impossible to see so it looks like an ordinary security light coming on.

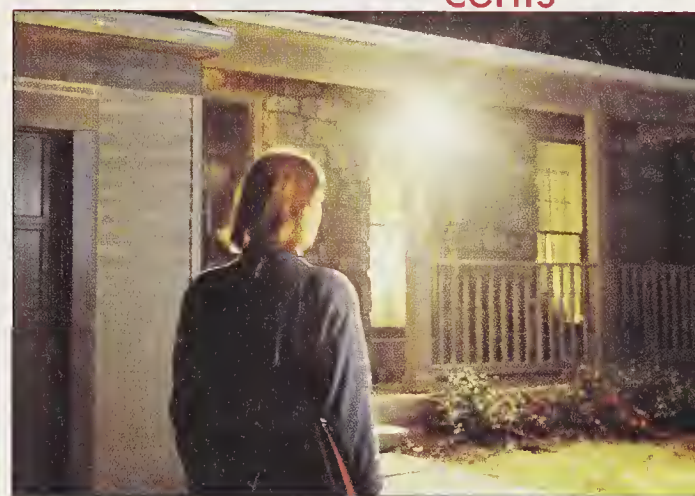
Motion-sensing lights, instead of continuous floodlights, also reduce nighttime light pollution. Near population centers, the skies are never truly dark at night. This nighttime light pollution can negatively impact the habits and abilities of some species of birds to navigate the skies at night and thousand die every year as a result.

There are many styles and types of motion-sensing light fixtures from which to choose. The most common and reasonably priced style is the standard two-floodlight design. These look identical to a regular floodlight fixture except there is a motion sensor mounted between the two bulbs.

This style gives you the flexibility of pointing each of the two floodlights in any direction, independent of the motion sensor direction. You may want to point the motion sensor toward a spot where you think intruders may try to sneak through while lighting a different, larger area when motion is detected.

For even more security, some models include a tiny built-in camera between the two floodlights. The camera lens is mounted on the light fixture immediately below the motion sensor. The camera can be connected to a television or VCR to capture a video image of who or what triggered the motion sensor light. The model for black and white viewing is adequate for security, but models for color monitors are also available.

For a more stylish motion-sensing fixture, select one of the decorative lanterns that mount on your house wall or on a post. Many models can be mounted by either method. The sensor is built into the fixture itself, so it is not readily apparent that it is a motion-sensing light fixture.



Lights are available as decorative lantern-style motion-sensing fixtures (left). Motion-sensing lights are also controllable by timers.

Many of the lanterns are made of strong, lightweight cast aluminum and painted in one of several standard colors. More decorative ones are made of higher quality polished solid brass with true beveled glass. Although the motion sensor is built-in and not adjustable, it has a large range of coverage.

Motion-sensing security lights are simple to install and, with no electricity needed, you can locate them wherever you need the most security. The sun charges up a battery inside of the housing and the light can continue to switch on and off for more than 100 cycles on a single-day's solar charge.

Motion-sensing models are available that use X-10 technology to turn on other lights and appliances inside your house. Plug an X-10 module into a wall outlet and plug the light or appliance into the module and set its code to the same as the motion-sensing light. It uses your house wiring to carry the signal. When the outside light comes on followed by an indoor light and a radio or television, for example, a thief surely thinks he was seen.

If you would like some low-level accent lighting, but still want security for when legitimate guests visit your home, choose a dual-output model. When you switch on the outdoor light, it comes on at 20 to 50 percent intensity, depending on the model, of its full brightness. When motion is detected, the light switches on to full brightness for one to 20 minutes depending where you set the timer.

The angle of motion-sensing coverage and its range vary considerably among the various models. When selecting a light, determine the area of your yard you want to protect. Select a model with the appropriate motion-sensing angle (100 to 240 degrees) and range (30 to 100 feet) to cover the area. Most of the better-quality models will have adjustable distance sensitivity so that cars and pedestrians on the street will not trigger the light.

Write for (instantly download - www.dulley.com) Utility Bills Update No. 530 - buyer's guide of nine electric and solar motion-sensing light manufacturers (28 models) listing sensitivity (coverage angle/range), styles, wattages, bulb types, and features. Please include \$3.00 and a business-size SASE. James Dulley, Carolina Country, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244.

Ultimate Walker

The Ultimate Walker, by Innovative Products Unlimited, is made of lightweight plastic pipe to help people who need help walking. This lightweight



walker includes an anti-tip base, a lock bar, twin-wheel casters (two that lock), and an upholstered seat. The Ultimate Walker is designed for people 4 feet 10 inches and taller. It adjusts to four different heights, includes a side tote bag and comes in 12 colors. For information call (800) 628-1441.

A new TV show about decorative painting

In 1996, Vicki Payne started public television's first stained glass how-to program, "Glass with Vicki Payne." After its success, Vicki and her daughter, Sloan Payne-Rutter, developed the how-to show called "For Your Home," focusing on home décor, improvement, furniture trends and landscaping. Now, the mother-daughter duo has launched "Paint! Paint! Paint!" in which they discuss decorative painting.

New seasons of "For Your Home" and "Paint! Paint! Paint!" are underway. For show times, go to www.foryourhome.com or call UNC-TV at (919) 549-7000.

Septic system safety

Farm*A*Syst has set up a Web site to help North Carolina residents maintain septic systems and avoid polluting local water systems. The site at www.soil.ncsu.edu/assist/farminde.html includes an online quiz to help determine if you have a potential water contamination problem.

Lexington musician has new CD



Mike Craver, former member of the "Red Clay Ramblers," has composed a new CD called "Shining Down." Craver's style combines theatre, cabaret, American folk and comedy. "Shining Down" contains 14 songs and is available for

\$15.99 (includes shipping). It may be purchased online at www.mikecarver.com or from Mike at 841, S. N.C. Hwy. 150, Lexington, NC 27295.

Visit the Carolina Country Store

Do you have something to stock on the Carolina Country Store shelves? Send information and pictures to our storekeeper through the Web site at Carolina.country@ncemcs.com

The store is open 24 hours a day, everyday, at www.carolinacountry.com

Carolinas Aviation Museum

Located at the Charlotte/Douglas airport, the Carolinas Aviation Museum offers guided tours, aircraft memorabilia and aviation history. See a replica of the famous Wright Glider used by the Wright brothers in 1902, or view wartime aircraft from Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm.

Built in 1936 as a hangar for Charlotte's first municipally-owned airport, the facility still maintains a fleet that comprises the Piedmont Airlines DC-3 (shown), two OV1-D Mohawks and a 1940's State Airlines 14-9L. Test your skills on the "hands-on" flight simulator or visit the museum's gift shop. The museum hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1-5 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$3 adults, \$1 for children (under 6, free) and seniors \$2. Phone: (704) 359-8441. Address: 4108 Airport Drive Charlotte/Douglas International Airport Charlotte, NC 28208.



Hay Alert

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Web site www.ncagr.com/HayAlert/ has been updated to help farmers find hay buyers and sellers. Farmers may post listings to sell hay or locate a grower who may have some available. Visitors to the site can search the database by county. To post an ad to sell hay, go to "Submit Your Ad" and fill out the required information.

Farmers who do not have Internet access may call the NCDA toll-free at (888) 316-8451, Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m.-8 p.m., to submit an ad or search listings. You may also contact the NCDA by mail: NCDA Agriculture Statistics, Attn: HayAlert, P.O. Box 27767, Raleigh, NC 27611.

Vollmer Farm in Wake County

Located in Bunn (Wake County), the Vollmer Farm is a fifth-generation family-owned farm open to the public. The farm houses Farmer John's Country Café that features homemade dishes for lunch and dinner. The open-



air farmer's market offers fresh-cut flowers, jams, candles and more. Daily tours in spring and fall takes visitors on hayrides. The farm features seasonal events like "Spooktacular" in October. Admission for adults and children is \$7. Phone: (919) 496-3076. Address: P.O. Box 171, Bunn, NC 27508. Web: www.vollmerfarm.com

Gift baskets online

Danielle Ripatti of South Mills in Camden County, who enjoys making gift baskets and shipping them to friends and relatives, transformed her hobby into an online store. Dani's Gifts-N-More categories include Disney items, baby gifts, gift baskets, creative candles, sports throws, quilts, used books, air fresheners and unique gifts. Her Web site features an e-mail list, daily trivia question and links to other sites. The site is searchable and offers a complete gift index. You may call Danielle at (252) 771-2963. And visit the site <http://stores.yahoo.com/danisgifts-n-more>.

Belhaven Museum goes online

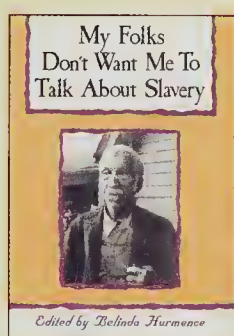
A part of the ECHO (Exploring Carolinas History Online) digital network, the Belhaven Museum offers photos and history online. The museum houses the collection of Mrs. Eva Way, a resident of Beaufort County. The Web site includes biographical data on Mrs. Way, the unofficial founder of the museum, as well as her favorite recipes. www.beaufort-county.com/Belhaven/museum/Belhaven.htm

ON THE BOOKSHELF



A scenic tour of Macon and Jackson counties

In 1980, Hildegard Sandhusen retired to Franklin in Macon County after a career as an international photojournalist. She continues her passion in her latest book, "Look About," that captures scenes from five mountain towns: Franklin, Highlands, Cashiers, Sylva and Dillsboro. The 52-page, softcover book has color, as well as black and white photos. "Look About" includes Sandhusen's commentary, directions to local attractions, and places for personal notes. The book is available for \$11.95 from Hildegard directly. Include \$3 for shipping, plus tax. Phone: (828) 369-9801. Address: 717 Zurich Circle, Swiss Colony, Franklin, NC 28734.



North Carolina slave narratives

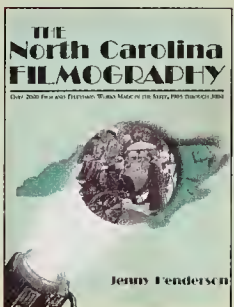
"My Folks Don't Want Me To Talk About Slavery" is a new compilation of 21 firsthand narratives about slavery in North Carolina. The title comes from the account by Sarah Debro, who was interviewed at age 90 in Durham: "My folks don't want me to talk about slavery. They's shame niggers ever was slaves."

The 103-page softcover book is just part of the more than 2,000 slave narratives now housed in the Library of Congress. Edited by Belinda Hurmence, "My Folks Don't Want Me To Talk About Slavery" is available at bookstores for \$6.95 or through John F Blair Publisher. www.blairpub.com



"Murder III"

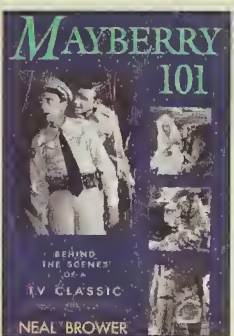
Cape Carteret resident Jerry Eden has written his first novel, "Murder III." His work is a fictional murder mystery centered on the life of Jack Fields, a Wall Street stockbroker, who finds himself the prime suspect in the murder of his partner, Ron Stuart. The 238-page softcover is available for \$19.95 at bookstores or from Publish America at P.O. Box 151, Frederick, MD 21705-0151. Phone: (877) 333-7422. Web: www.publishamerica.com



North Carolina filmography

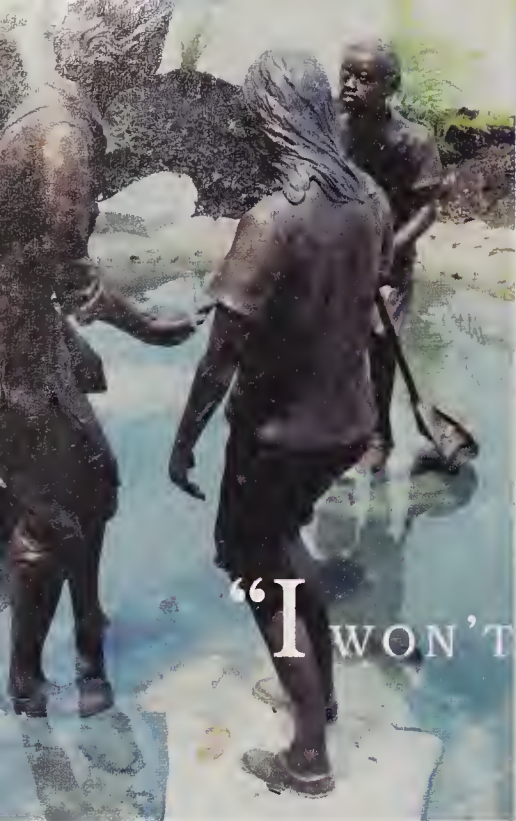
North Carolina's rural beauty and small towns have long attracted motion picture and television filmmakers. From "The Last of the Mohicans" to the recent filming of "Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood," North Carolina's history of celluloid appeal has it ranked third in the nation for places to film.

Jenny Henderson's book, "North Carolina Filmography," is a complete listing of all films made in North Carolina to date. She also includes any film that contained a segment (no matter how short) that was filmed here, including feature movies, documentaries, newsreels, independent films, and educational films. The 280-page, softcover book contains alphabetical location and personnel indexes. The book is available for \$53.95 (includes shipping) from McFarland & Company, Inc., Box 611, Jefferson, NC 28640. Phone: (336) 246-4460.



"Mayberry 101"

Neal Brower, an Asheboro native, has taught his popular course about the 1960s TV program "The Andy Griffith Show" at community colleges throughout North Carolina. His passion and expertise have also made their way into a column in the show's fan club newsletter, "The Bullet." Now, even more of Brower has been compiled in the first of a projected 3-volume set, "Mayberry 101: Behind the Scenes of a TV Classic." The 528-page softcover book details 79 episodes written by Harvey Bullock, Everett Greenbaum, Sam Bobrick and partners, including storylines and interviews. The book is available for \$14.95 in bookstores. Or contact the publisher, John F Blair, 1406 Plaza Dr., Winston-Salem, NC 27103. www.blairpub.com



Aurora artist honors nature with life-sized *sculptures*

by Tara Verna

"I WON'T BE SITTING ON A BEACH AT AGE 65

—I'll just be getting going," says Douglas Alvord, who lives in Beaufort County.

The 62-year-old artist lavishes his time on a myriad of creative interests including drawing, writing and his latest love—sculpting.

Alvord's bronze sculpture honoring conservationist Rachel Carson was unveiled in May at the Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh. Titled "A Sense of Wonder" after one of Carson's books, it depicts Carson and two eager children sharing a love of the natural world by contemplating a turtle on the edge of a pond.

Alvord's passion for the sea produces another theme that resurfaces in his works. Another public sculpture is a bronze titled, "The Carolina Sounder," a tribute to fishermen, installed on the Morehead City waterfront in 1998. And the N.C. Maritime Museum in Beaufort sells a poster of a painting by Alvord titled, "Traditional Work Boats of North Carolina" for \$15. Call (252) 728-7317.

The artist's latest work-in-progress, "Let the Circle be Unbroken," will be a life-sized bronze sculpture showcasing 12 children of varying cultures holding hands around a pool, with room for two real children to complete the circle. Each statue will stand upon a stone from that child's country of origin. To learn more this piece, contact Alvord at (252) 671-5428.

To view some of Alvord's smaller sculptures, visit the Picture That 2 Gallery and Performing Arts Center at 323 Middle Street in New Bern. Call (252)-637-9363. While in New Bern, view another of Alvord's works—the 120-foot-long mural illustrating the history of Craven County at the New Bern Convention Center.

Alvord has also illustrated and/or written five books, including these two for young adults: "Princeville: The Year of the Flood" and "Sarah's Boat: A Young Girl Learns the Art of Sailing" which made the "Brave Girls and Strong Women" book list. Order the Princeville book for \$14.95 from www.coastalcarolinianpress.org or call (910) 362-9298. "Sarah's Boat..." is available for \$16.95 in hardcover from www.allbookstores.com.

Above and right: Alvord's latest sculpture "A Sense of Wonder" honors conservationist Rachel Carson. The bronze piece was unveiled in May at the Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh.

Alvord grew up in a small community in eastern Canada where he inherited his love of nature. He has spent much of his life working in the arts and publishing-related industries of New York, Boston and Maine. After moving to North Carolina in the 1990s, in part to escape the bitter cold winters of Maine, Alvord never looked back. "Although I've spent a lot of time living up north, I've come to realize that my soul is southern. People here are honest and truly appreciate my work."

Alvord, his wife Irma, and an undetermined number of cats and other creatures live on 23 acres in Aurora. They are members of Tideland Electric Membership Corporation.





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A N A M E R I C A N S T A P L E S I N C E 1 9 0 2

They could hear him coming

By Lu Ann Jones

How peddlers and “rolling stores” brought household goods to the parlors and porches of rural Southern women



When I was little, my mother told me stories about “the Rawleigh man” and “the Watkins man,” traveling salesmen who visited her eastern North Carolina home in the 1920s. The family joked that “the Watkins man” planned his route in order to arrive at noon. “When he was in our neighborhood,” my grandmother swore, “he heard our dinner bell ring and made it there in time to eat.” Although a source of amusement, “the Watkins man” sold products that my grandmother prized, and at meal’s end she surveyed his sample case. She selected spices and vanilla extract to enliven food, trusted Watkins salves to relieve congested chests, and relied upon the veterinary tablets and powders to cure her chickens of parasites. Examining the Watkins products brought to her back door allowed my grandmother to make independent purchasing decisions, a practice otherwise denied her because my grandfather was the one who filled the weekly grocery list at a country store.

Examining the Watkins products brought to her back door allowed my grandmother to make independent purchasing decisions, a practice otherwise denied her...

When I became a historian, my mother’s stories alerted me to aspects of rural life that I might have missed had I been tutored by books alone. Who were those sales agents who visited her family, I wanted to

know, and what role did they and their female customers play in southern commerce during the early 20th century? What difference did it make that historians had assumed that country stores took center stage in the rural South and, as a result, had overlooked the transactions that women like my grandmother conducted routinely with itinerant merchants? To find answers, I searched business archives, read reminiscences of rural life, and interviewed older farm men and women.

Several kinds of mobile merchants operated in the rural South well into the 20th century. Some were peddlers who sold from their packs or wagons. Others operated what were popularly known as “rolling stores,” portable extensions of stationary businesses. Still other “traveling men” represented national manufacturing firms.

Itinerant merchants were welcome alternatives for women who felt uncomfortable in country stores. It is important to realize that as bastions of male customs and habits, general stores could be inhospitable places for women to shop. Men gathered around stoves to play checkers or loafed on porches, passing the time with ribald humor and neighborhood gossip. Women often approached these places of commerce with reluctance and apprehension, and those who did venture across a store’s threshold might, in novelist William Faulkner’s words, have to pass “the squatting men... spitting across the heelgnawed porch” and training their “ranked battery of maneyes” on her.

Practical constraints also restricted rural women's visits to stores. Childbearing and childrearing kept them busy much of their adult lives, and cleaning, cooking, and countless domestic chores left women little time to get away from home. As a result, their men folk usually did the shopping.

THE PEDDLERS

Itinerant merchants understood these facts of country life and brought their wares right to women's parlors and porches. In reminiscences about the rural South, peddlers were familiar figures. Filtered through the lens of childhood, recollections ascribed magical qualities to peddlers who inspired fascination and fantasy. The peddler's visit to the Wake County farm where Bernice Kelly Harris grew up in the late 19th century remained a vivid memory for the North Carolina writer 40 years later. When he opened his packs, Harris recalled, "It was Aladdin's lamp, an adventure in wonderland, a glimpse into the gold-haired prince's palace beside the sea. For the rings and things conjured up a way of life that glittered."

For children like Harris, peddlers represented miraculous gift-bearers like Santa Claus. But for adult women, their visits provided opportunities to bargain for household necessities and a few small luxuries. While young Bernice enjoyed the aroma of soaps and admired the ribbons and lace that the peddler displayed, her mother calculated which goods she could afford to buy and which trinkets she had to pass up. After engaging in a form of window-shopping in her own home, Bernice appreciated that her mother "had spent her butter and egg money to let us enjoy looking at the wares."

ROLLING STORES

Heeding the peddlers' lessons, some rural storekeepers realized that they could tap the full potential of their market only if they took their merchandise to women's houses. At these "rolling stores"--trucks or wagons fitted out with merchandise--female customers used their own discretion when making purchases rather than relying on that of their husbands.

Hal Edmond's grandfather knew that farm women in the North Carolina mountains rarely made trips to his Madison County store. But every week O. S. Edmonds took a scaled down version of his permanent store to customers. Because



"...women anticipated his arrival and met him at the end of their lanes."

Edmonds followed regular routes, women anticipated his arrival and met him at the end of their lanes ready to trade eggs, chickens and butter for merchandise. "They'd like to come out right beside the house," Hal Edmonds recalled, "sit down beside the road. See, you started up a little road up one of these hollers, and they could hear you coming. Wasn't no traffic." From the shelves and aisle of the specially rigged truck, Edmonds supplied the same merchandise that stocked the shelves of his "regular store." He also took special orders for bulky items, such as a 100-pound bag of salt during hog-killing season, or custom goods, such as shoes, which he delivered the following week. The rolling

store business survived in Madison County until the 1950s, when better roads and more automobiles eased travel and chain groceries arrived.

THE RAWLEIGH MAN AND THE WATKINS MAN

A third kind of itinerant merchant were agents who represented large enterprises such as the W. T. Rawleigh Company and the J. R. Watkins Medical Company. Although older rural southerners often put these retailers in the same category as peddlers and rolling-store merchants, my research revealed that in many respects Rawleigh and Watkins salesmen were a breed apart. Unlike the independent entrepreneurs, they acted on behalf of mass manufacturers who celebrated the modernity, scale and scope of their operations.

Rawleigh and Watkins agents visited rural southern homes frequently, but the parent companies were located in the upper Midwest. Based in northern Illinois, the Rawleigh headquarters was less than 200 miles from Watkins's hometown of Winona, Minnesota. W. T. Rawleigh began modestly in the late 19th century, peddling to farmers the medicines that his first wife — whom he later divorced — brewed and bottled in their home near Freeport. By the early 20th century, Rawleigh envisioned the sales potential and the company began building factories in cities across the United States and Canada.

The development of the Watkins company followed a similar path, starting with a popular liniment in 1868 and expanding its inventory and sales territory in the early 20th century. By 1912, both companies had established factories and branches in the South.

continue on page 34



as bastions of male customs and habits, general stores could be inhospitable places for women to shop.

A dizzying array of products rolled off the Rawleigh and Watkins assembly lines. There were spices and flavorings to season foods, toiletries to soften and perfume the body, salves, liniments, laxatives and cough syrups to relieve human aches and afflictions, and veterinary dips, disinfectants and powders to treat the diseases of livestock.

Both companies published manuals, designed to entice men to join their sales teams and to instruct them in the principles of "scientific salesmanship." By 1926, for example, "Rawleigh Methods" filled 1,917 pages and in bulk it resembled a thick brick. The company anticipated every contingency as it described how to size up customers, advised how to collect delinquent debts, and encouraged agents to follow precise sales scripts rather than relying on patter they invented themselves.

When a "Rawleigh man" or "Watkins man" called on customers, he had a bag of sales tricks at his disposal. The recollections of a North Carolina woman whose grandparents patronized "the Rawleigh man" during the 1930s and 1940s suggest that agents followed some of the recommendations. Gladys Hackney Thomas recalled that the Rawleigh retailer who visited her Chatham County family patiently described his products but did not dawdle. "He took time to show his goods," she remembered, but as soon as purchases were made, "he was on his way." The behavior of this "Rawleigh man" resembles the sales guide's directive: "Do not loaf or loiter around one moment after finishing your business. Time is valuable, do not waste yours or compel others to waste theirs, but move on."

Oral history accounts suggest that women especially welcomed the visits of Rawleigh and Watkins retailers because they provided breaks in household routines and opportunities to make purchases on their own. The Rawleigh agent passed through Gladys Thomas's community about once every three months, and the women "were so thrilled" that they telephoned neighbors as soon as someone spotted him. They treasured the ointments and salves that lined the family medicine chest, and Thomas' grandmother liked to add Rawleigh

cake colorings to batter or frosting, a touch that set her desserts apart from the crowd on Sundays when a church dinner followed preaching.

These modest transactions between rural women and itinerant merchants were so commonplace that their importance could be easily overlooked. For too long historians have dismissed stories about mobile merchants as quaint anecdotes and treated their female customers as bit players in the drama of southern commerce where men and country stores claimed the limelight. But taken seriously, these stories broaden the cast of characters who shaped the South's rural economy and complicate the familiar plot of its development. As my mother and grandmother knew every time "the Watkins man" pulled into the yard, the country store was but one constellation in the region's universe of buying and selling.

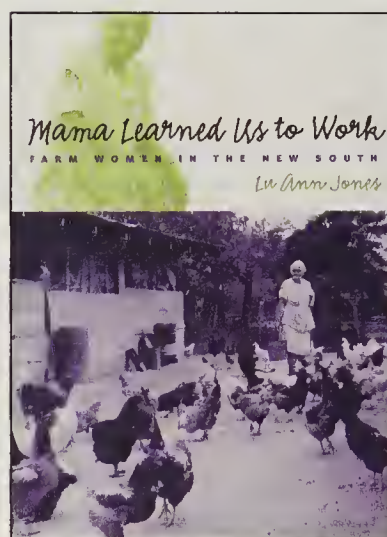
Photo Credits

Page 32: "A rolling store which goes from door to door selling groceries, hardware, dry goods, drugs and a variety of household and farm supplies." Photo by Marion Post Wolcott; LC-USF 33-30398-M2, Montezuma (vicinity), Ga., May 1939, Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information, Division of Prints and Photographs, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Page 33: "The inside of a rolling store. The average daily sales amount to \$60, for which a lot of them are paid in produce from the farms. A tank of kerosene can be seen on the left." Photo by Marion Post Wolcott; LC-USF 34-51439-D, Coffee County, Ala., April 1939, Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information, Division of Prints and Photographs, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Page 34: Men at filling station and general store, 1939. N85.2.25, Archives and Records Section, N.C. Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.

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Lu Ann Jones teaches history at East Carolina University. This article is adapted from "Mama Learned Us to Work: Farm Women in the New South," published this month by the University of North Carolina Press. The book is available in paperback (\$19.95) and hardcover (\$49.95) in bookstores. For more information, contact the UNC Press at (800) 848-6224. www.uncpress.unc.edu

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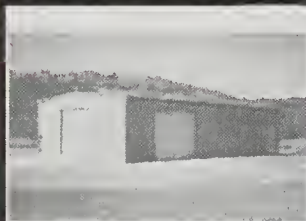
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Answer on page 38

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— cgj

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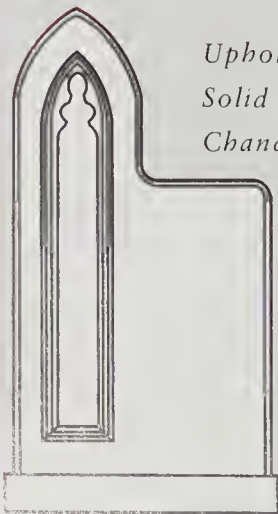
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Alexander County Ag. Fair

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Alleghany County Ag. Fair

August 26-31
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October 8-12
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Avery County Ag. Fair

September 17-21
Newland
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Burke County Fair

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Morganton
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Cabarrus County Ag. Fair

September 7-14
Concord
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Caldwell County Ag. Fair

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Lenoir
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Cape Fear Fair & Expo

October 31- November 9
Wilmington
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Central Carolina Fair

September 13-22
Greensboro
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Chatham County Ag. & Ind. Fair

September 3-7
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Cherokee Indian Fair

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September 10-15
Fayetteville
(910) 438-4140

Davidson County Ag. Fair

September 16-21
Lexington
(336) 243-2528

Dixie Classic Fair

October 4-13
Winston-Salem
(336) 727-2236

Drexel Community Fair

August 20-25
Drexel
(828) 438-3933

Duplin County Fair

September 24-28
Kenansville
(910) 296-2468

Halifax-Northampton Ag. Fair

September 10-14
Roanoke Rapids
(252) 537-0161

Haywood County Fair

September 23-29
Waynesville
(828) 452-6758

Hickory American Legion Fair

August 28-September 2
Hickory
(828) 464-5433

Iredell County Ag. Fair

September 2-7
Statesville
(704) 528-6176

Lee County Ag. Fair

October 1-5
Sanford
(919) 776-9977

Lenoir County Fair

September 9-15
Kinston
(252) 523-4555

Macon County Fair

September 11-15
Franklin
(828) 369-3523

Moore County Ag. Fair

September 24-28
Carthage
(910) 947-2774

NC-SC District Fair

September 6-15
Monroe
(704) 283-5846

NC Mountain State Fair

September 6-15
Fletcher
(828) 687-1414, Ext. 222

North Carolina State Fair

October 18-27
Raleigh
(919) 733-2145

Onslow County Fair

October 1-6
Jacksonville
(910) 346-3871

Pitt County Ag. Fair

October 7-12
Greenville
(252) 758-6916

Richmond County Ag. Fair

September 24-28
Hamlet
(910) 582-2223

Robeson County Fair

September 30 - October 6
Lumberton
(910) 738-2126

Rocky Mount Ag. Fair

September 20-28
Rocky Mount
(252) 977-3247

Rowan County Fair

September 17-22
Salisbury
(704) 633-5632

Stanly County Fair

September 10-14
Albemarle
(704) 983-2913

Stokes County Ag. Fair

September 9-14
King
(336) 983-3608

Surry County Ag. Fair

September 16-21
Mt. Airy
(336) 786-6830

Vance County Regional Fair

September 24-28
Henderson
(804) 348-3378

Warren County Ag. Fair

September 16-21
Macon
(252) 257-4270

Wayne Regional Ag. Fair

September 26-October 5
Goldsboro
(919) 735-7277

Wilkes County Ag. Fair

October 8-12
Millers Creek
(336) 838-4942

Wilson County Fair

September 17-22
Wilson
(252) 237-8443



S E E Y O U A T T H E F A I R

September *EVENTS*



Snuggle up with an alpaca at the 6th annual Farm Heritage Days in Sugar Grove on September 21. The event features live music, old time craft demonstrations, clogging, a Civil War re-enactment, and more. For more information, call (828) 297-2200 or surf www.covecreek.net.

MOUNTAINS (west of I-77)

Canton Labor Day Celebration

Sept. 1-2. Canton.
(828) 648-7925.
www.cantonpapertown.com

North Carolina Apple Festival

Sept. 1-2. Hendersonville.
(828) 697-4557.

"Roadside"

Sept. 4-22. Flat Rock.
Flat Rock Playhouse.
(828) 693-0731.

Downtown Live

Sept. 5 & 12. Mount Airy.
Live music. City Hall. Free.
(336) 789-2404.

Appalachian Highland Games & Scottish Festival

Sept. 7. Murphy.
(828) 389-0747.

Art in the Park

Sept. 7. Blowing Rock.
Fine art & craft shows.
Downtown. Free.
(828) 295-7851.

Walk-America 2002

Sept. 7. Rockingham.
Leath Memorial Library.
(800) 273-2009.

Camp Rainbow Craft Fair

Sept. 13. Foscoe.
(919) 542-7442.

Boone Bluegrass Fest

Sept. 14. Boone.
Featuring "Blue Highway."
High County Fairgrounds.
(866) 262-1188

Great L.A. Festival

Sept. 14. Lansing.
American Legion ball field.
(336) 384-2812.

Tim Frye's Pickin' on the Creek

Sept. 14. Mount Airy.
Live music. Granite City Floor
Covering. (336) 786-5039.

Cruisin' For Miracles

Sept. 14. Hendersonville.
Fundraiser for Children's
Miracle Network. WalMart
Supercenter. (828) 697-7876.

Annual Sweet Potato Festival

Sept. 14. Rockford.
Rockford General Store.
(336) 374-5317.

From Peel to Pie

Sept. 14. Pinnacle.
Horne Creek Historical Farm.
Free. (336) 325-2298.

Surry County Agricultural Fair

Sept. 16-21. Mount Airy.
(336) 786-6830.

Ashe Civic Center

Sept. 19. West Jefferson.
"Blue Highway." (336) 246-
4483. www.ashecivic.com

14th Annual Craft Show

Sept. 20-21. Brevard.
St. Timothy Methodist Church.
(828) 877-3065.

"North Carolina

Presence: 1861-1865"

Sept. 20-22. Asheville.
Educational seminar on the
Civil War. Best Western
Biltmore. (828) 227-3910.
www.wncwrt.org

Southern Highland Craft Guild

Sept. 20-22. Asheville.
"Heritage Weekend 2002."
Blue Ridge Parkway's Folk
Art Center. (828) 298-7928.

Lake Toxaway Heritage Festival

Sept. 21. Toxaway.
Lake Toxaway Community
Center. (828) 966-4453.

Farm Heritage Days

Sept. 21. Sugar Grove.
(828) 297-2200.
www.covecreek.net

Festival on the Square

Sept. 21. Granite Falls.
Downtown. (828) 396-4000.

7th Annual Kids Fair

Sept. 21. Murphy.
(828) 837-3460.

Music in the Mountains Folk Festival

Sept. 21. Burnsville.
Toe River Arts Council.
(828) 682-7215.

14th Annual Mayberry Days

Sept. 26-28. Mount Airy.
Andy Griffith Playhouse.
(800) 286-6193.
www.surryarts.org

Old Timey Fall Festival

Sept. 28. Burnsville.
(828) 682-7413.

Street Dances

Every Mon. Hendersonville.
Main Street. Free. (828) 692-
1413. www.historichendersonville.org

Concerts on the Lawn

Every Fri. Boone.
Free. (828) 264-1789.
wcac@boone.net

Stokes County Writers Group

1st Tues. Danbury Public
Library. 2nd Tues. King Library.
(336) 593-8159. (336) 593-
2419.

Storytelling

Every Sat. Kings Mountain.
Kings Mountain Historical
Museum. (704) 739-1917.

Schiele Museum

Ongoing. Gastonia.
"Explore the Bobcat's Den" |
"The Little Star That Could" |
(704) 866-6900.
www.schielemuseum.org

Cradle of Forestry Historic Site

Ongoing. Pisgah Forest.
Sept. 7, "Terrific Tree Day" |
Sept. 14, "Monarch Butterfly
Program" | Sept. 21, "Colors of
Nature" | Sept. 21, "Cold
Mountain" | Sept. 28, "Junior
Forest Ranger" | (828) 877-
3130. www.cradleofforestry.com

The Orchard at Altapass

Ongoing. Spruce Pine.
Sept. 1, "Golden Eagles" | Sept.
2, "Labor Day Picnic" | Sept. 7,
"Bud Rice" | Sept. 8, "Slight
Departures" | Sept. 14. "Jesse
Smith & Louis Taylor and "The
Endorphins" | Blue Ridge

Parkway. Milepost 328.3.
Free. (888) 765-9531.
www.altapassorchard.com

Asheville Art Museum
Ongoing. Asheville.
Through Oct. 13, "Passionate
Collectors: Sonia & Isaac
Luski." (828) 253-3227.
www.ashevilleart.org

PIEDMONT (between I-77 and I-95)

Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show
Through Sept. 2. Raleigh.
State Fairgrounds.
(804) 746-7663.

Bull Durham Blues Festival
Sept. 6 & 7. Durham.
Durham Athletic Park.
(919) 683-1709. www.hayti.org

Gem & Mineral Show
Sept. 6-8. Winston-Salem.
Dixie Classic Fairgrounds.
(336) 924-8510.

"Hook, Line & Sinker"
Sept. 7. Cary.
Learn how to freshwater fish.

Bond Park Boathouse. Free.
(919) 469-4100.

Autumn Festival
Sept. 7. Winston-Salem.
Reynolda House.
(888) 663-1149.

**Education Aid Concert
& Live Auction**
Sept. 7. Hickory.
Featuring Doc Watson. Catawba
Valley Community College.
(828) 327-7000, ext. 4500.
www.folkloreproductions.com

Gatsby Day
Sept. 7. Reidsville.
Car show, costume contest.
Chinqua-Penn Plantation.
(800) 948-0947, ext.37.

"A Salute To Elvis"
Sept. 7. Lexington.
Eddie Miles. Smith Civic
Center. (336) 249-7875.

Green Creek Heritage Festival
Sept. 7. Green Creek.
Family Life Center. Free.
(828) 863-2437.

**Liberty—
Lest We Forget 9/11**
Sept. 7-8. Seagrove.
Musical celebration of free-
dom. Victory Baptist Church.
(336) 873-7900.

Winston Salem Air Show
Sept. 7-8. Smith Reynolds
Airport. (336) 767-6361.
www.smithreynolds.org

**Caldwell County Historical
Society & Heritage Museum**
Sept. 8. Lenoir.
Open house. Donations
appreciated. (828) 758-4004.

"Harry the Dirty Dog"
Sept. 9. Mocksville.
Brooks Performing Arts Center.
(336) 751-3000.

Second Sunday Series
Sept. 9. Chapel Hill.
Book reading by N.C.
author Doris Betts. Carolina
Inn. Free. (919) 962-3461.
www.unc.edu/news/newsserv

Bethabara Concert
Sept. 12. Winston-Salem.
Bands, hay wagon rides, etc.
Historic Bethabara Park. Free.
(336) 924-8191.
www.bethabarapark.org

Cruz'n & Shag'n
Sept. 14. Eden.
(336) 627-1332.

Antique Truck Show
Sept. 14. Spencer.
N.C. Transportation Museum.
(336) 657-8083.

A Heritage Festival
Sept. 14-15. Asheboro.
NC Zoological Park.
(800) 488-0444.

North Carolina Turkey Festival
Sept. 19 & 21. Raeford.
Sept. 19, parade | Sept. 21,
festival & cooking contest |
(910) 875-5929.

"Vocabulary of Veils"
Sept. 19. Winston-Salem.

Live art performance.
(336) 725-1904.

www.secca.org

**Guilford Native American
Pow Wow**
Sept. 20-22. Greensboro.
County Park. (336) 273-8686.
www.guilfordnative.org

Southern Randolph County Days
Sept. 20-22. Seagrove.
(336) 629-5015.

Fiesta Hispanic Festival
Sept. 21. Winston-Salem.
Downtown. Free. (336) 775-
4578. www.hlpt.org

The Tar River Festival
Sept. 21. Louisburg.
(919) 496-3056.
www.Franklin-Chamber.org

Old-Time Square Dance
Sept. 21 (every 3rd Sat.).
Denton Civic Center. (336)
475-9397. www.geocities.com/dentondance

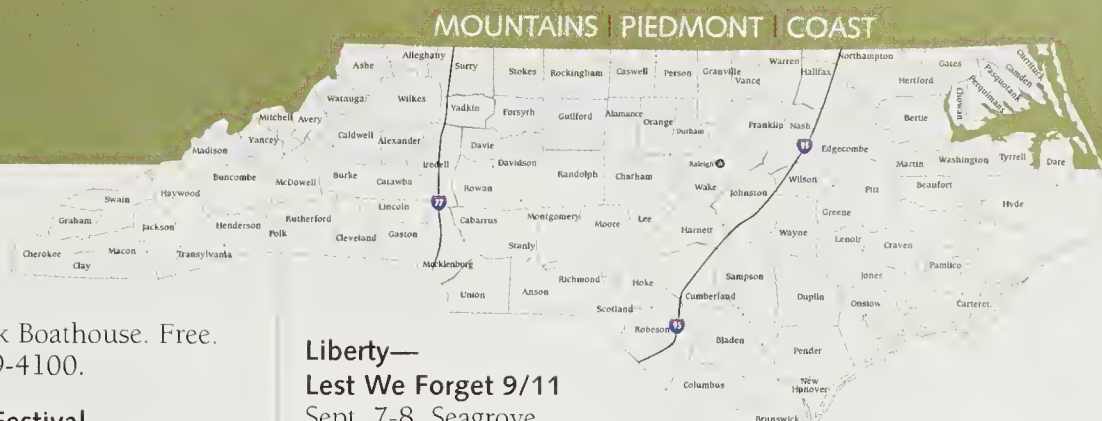
"Snaketacular"
Sept. 21-22. Greensboro.
Natural Science Center.
(336) 288-3769.

**Fall Auction &
Bluegrass Festival**
Sept. 26, 27 & 28. Statesville.
Perry Auction Co. (704) 871-
8353. www.perryauction.com

Chatham Farm Tour
Sept. 26. Chatham.
Chatham Co. Center.
(919) 542-8202.
www.ccs.ncsu.edu/chatham

Apple Festival
Sept. 27. Winston-Salem.
Bethabara Park. (336) 924-
8191. www.bethabarapark.org

Quilt Show
Sept. 27-29. Mooresville.
N.C. National Guard Armory.
(704) 664-5054.



Sponsored in part by the electric cooperative, EnergyUnited, the Nest of Hornets Maze at historic Rural Hill Farm in Huntersville provides a challenge as well as local history lesson.

The maze remains open Thursdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., through September 29. Costs range from free for those 3 years and under, to \$10 for adults.

To learn more, e-mail highlandgames@lochnorman.org, visit www.lochnorman.org or call (704) 875-3113.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Malcolm Blue Farm Festival
Sept. 27-29. Aberdeen.
Route 5. (910) 944-7558.

Liberty Antique Festival
Sept. 27-28. Liberty.
(336) 622-3040.

2nd Annual Pottery Fair
Sept. 28. Westmore.
Agri-Civic Center.
(901) 464-5661.

Holiday Craft Show
Sept. 28. Monroe. Monroe
Aquatics and Fitness Center.
(704) 282-4685.

Sculpture & Art Show
Sept. 28 & 29. Asheboro.
N.C. Zoo. (336) 879-7453.
www.nczoo.org

Shelton at Sunset Concert
Sept. 28. Dobson.
Shelton Vineyards.
(336) 366-4724.
www.sheltonvineyards.com

Hay Rides/Antique Farm Show
Sept. 29. Lillington.
(919) 499-0340.

Amazing MAIZE Maze™
Through Sept. 29. Huntersville.

Rural Hill Farm. (704) 875-
3113. www.lochnorman.org

**The North Carolina
Shakespeare Festival**
Through Oct. 5. High Point.
The High Point Theatre. (336)
887-3001. www.ncshakes.org

Mint Museum of Art
Ongoing. Charlotte.
Sept. 17, "19th Century English
Lustreware" (lecture) | Through
Oct. 27. "Romare Bearden" &
"David Driskell Collection" |
Through Dec. 1, "Lustreware" |
African American Art. |
(704) 366-2504.

**The Charlotte
Museum of History**
Ongoing. Charlotte.
Sept. 11, "A Day of Remembrance"
| Sept. 26-Oct. 6, "Declaration
of Independence Road Trip." |
Free on Sun. (704) 568-1774.
www.charlottemuseum.org

Malcolm Blue Farm Museum
Ongoing. Aberdeen
"Kudzu – The Vine That Covers
the South" | "Nature's Wrath" |
"Endangered Farm Animals" |
Free. (910) 944-5967.

Discovery Place
Ongoing. Charlotte.
"Dolphins." (704) 372-6261.

Museum of Life and Science
Ongoing. Durham
Rainforest Cart | "Traveling with
Time" | Baby red wolves | (919)
220-5429. www.ncmls.org

Museum of Art
Ongoing. Raleigh. Through
Sept. 8, "Through Third-
Grader's Eyes" | Through Dec
1, Selections from "The Birds
of America by John James
Audubon" | (919) 839-6262.
www.ncartmuseum.org

Old Salem
Ongoing. Winston-Salem.
Sept. 7, "Moravian Gift &
Books" | Sept. 21, "Crafts Guild"
| Salem Square. (336) 779-6190.

Wingate University
Ongoing. Wingate.
Sept. 3, "Ahn Trio" | Sept. 6,
"Tribute to Lewis Grizzard" |
Sept. 19, "Del McCoury Band" |
(704) 233-8300. www.wingate.edu

Farmer's Market
1st & 3rd Sat. Kenly.
Tobacco Life Museum.
(919) 284-3431.

**Cheryl & Jefferson Glover
Art Exhibition**
Sept. 3-29. Manteo.
Sea and Sounds Gallery. (252)
473-5558. www.darcarts.org

Bald is Beautiful Convention
Sept. 5-8. Morehead City.
(252) 726-1004.

Oktoberfest
Sept. 6-7. Manteo.
Bavarian festival. (252) 473-
1157. www.weepinggradish.com

Harbor Nights
Sept. 6. Elizabeth City.
(252) 335-4365.

**Wildlife Bait & Tackle
Flounder Tournament**
Sept. 6-8. Southport.
(910) 457-6964.

Farmer's Day
Sept. 7. Richlands.
Downtown. (910) 324-4111.

Gun & Knife Show
Sept. 7-8. Greenville.
Greenville Convention Center.
(888) 715-0606.

**N.C. Watercolor Society
Exhibit Opening**
Sept. 8-Oct. 30. Edenton.
(252) 482-8005.

Landmark Show
Sept. 8-Oct. 5. Pasquotank.
Pasquotank Arts Council.
(252) 338-6455.

"Symphony of Riffs"
Sept. 8. UNC-Wilmington.
Kenan Hall. (910) 392-1200.

"A Streetcar Named Desire"
Sept. 11-15, 20-21. Wilmington.
Thalian Hall. (910) 343-3664.

Boat Show
Sept. 13-15. Greenville.
Convention Center.
(252) 321-4287.

"Freeboot Friday"
Sept. 13. Greenville.
(252) 329-4200.

COAST (east of I-95)

Blue Crab Festival
Sept. 1-2. Bayboro.
(252) 745-4238.

James Smythe Art Show
Sept. 2-26. Manteo.
Roanoke Island Festival Park.
(252) 475-1506.
www.roanokeisland.com

Children's Crab Derby
Sept. 2. Southport.
(910) 457-7945.

Ayden Collard Festival
Sept. 2-7. Ayden. Free.
(252) 746-2266.



Toward the end of the month, stop by the N.C. Maritime Museum in Beaufort for the exhibit "Coastal Scenes of France," Sept. 28-Nov. 3. Call (252) 723-7317 or visit www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/sections/maritime for more information. Above painting from the exhibit is titled, "Painpol, a colorful seaside town."

"Alive After Five"

Sept. 13. New Bern.
Downtown. Free. (800) 437-
5767. www.visitnewbern.com

Garden Spot Festival

Sept. 13-14. La Grange.
Downtown. Free.
(800) 869-0032.

"The Power of Now"

Sept. 13-15. Wilmington.
Unity Christ Church.
(910) 458-9389.

Downtown Antiques/Yard Sales

Sept. 14. Morehead City.
4th to 14th Streets.
(252) 808-0440.

Small Craft Assn.

In-The-Water Meet

Sept. 14. Beaufort. (252) 728-
7317. [www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/](http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/sections/maritime/main/even)
sections/maritime/main/even

Peanut Festival

Sept. 14. Roper.
(252) 793-5527.

Annual Indian Summer Festival

Sept. 14. Hertford.
(252) 426-7567.

Moth Boat Regatta

Sept. 14. Albemarle. Museum of
Albemarle. Free. (252) 335-
1453.

"Lives of the Tree"

Sept. 15-Dec. 15. Wilmington.
Children's Museum. Interactive
exhibit on trees. (910) 254-
3534.

"Paintings by Charles

Meadows Hines, Jr."

Through Sept. 19. Oriental.
Trawl Restaurant. (252) 249-
0997. [www.pamlico-](http://www.pamlico-nc.com/arts/artevent.htm)
nc.com/arts/artevent.htm

**Beaufort County Arts Council
30th Anniversary Celebration**

Sept. 19. Beaufort.
(252) 946-2504.

Coastal Pet Expo

Sept. 21. Morehead City.
Crystal Coast Civic Center.
(252) 247-3883.

"Build A Boat in A Day"

Sept. 21. Beaufort.
N.C. Maritime Museum.
(252) 728-7317.

Big Sweep

Sept. 21. Crystal Coast.
Annual clean-up of the beaches.
(252) 222-6352.

Dog Jog

Sept. 21. Wilmington
Greenfield Lake.
5K charity event.
(910) 341-3237.

Bethel Harvest Festival

Sept. 21. Bethel.
Free. (252) 825-7111.

Motor Fair

Sept. 21. Elizabeth City.
Southgate Mall. Free.
(252) 338-2848.

"Steamed Blue to Red Hot"

Sept. 21. Columbia.
Crab dinner & art auction.
(252) 796-2787.

**Onslow County Museum
Quilt Show**

Sept. 21-22. Richlands.
(910) 324-5008.

Feast of San Gennaro

Sept. 22. Atlantic Beach.
Atlantic Beach Causeway
Shopping Center.
(252) 726-0111.

An Evening with Edward Jacobs

Sept. 24. Oriental.
St. Thomas Episcopal Church.
Free. (252) 249-3079.

**Beaufort Historical Association
Membership Meeting**

Sept. 24. Beaufort.

St. Paul's Episcopal
Church. Potluck
supper & speaker
on historic decorative
painting. (252) 728-
5225.

**Carolina Country
Stampede Festival**

Sept. 27-28.
Williamston. Downtown.
(800) 776-8566.
[www.martincounty-](http://www.martincounty-nc.com/mc/stampede)
nc.com/mc/stampede

**Wilmington Symphony
Annual Benefit
Concert**

Sept. 28. Wilmington.
Thalian Hall. (910)
241-9622. [www.wilm-](http://www.wilm-ingtonsymphony.org)
ingtonsymphony.org

**Louise Wells Cameron
Art Museum**

Ongoing. Wilmington.
Sept. 1-2, "Musings on
the Modern Age
Series" | Sept. 20,
"Cyberweekend" |
Through Sept. 20,
"Mark Hewitt:
Outside" | Free on first
Sun. (910) 395-5999.
[www.cameronart-](http://www.cameronart-museum.com)
museum.com

**N.C. Maritime
Museum**

Ongoing. Beaufort.
Sept. 28-Nov. 3,
"Coastal Scenes of
France." (252) 728-
7317. [www.ah.dcr-](http://www.ah.dcr-state.nc.us/sections/maritime)
[state.nc.us/sections/](http://state.nc.us/sections/maritime)
maritime

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(800) 755-1755 or (910) 296-2180
duplintourism@duplinnet.com
www.duplincounty.org/tourism.htm

LISTING INFORMATION

Deadline for Nov: Sept. 25

Deadline for Dec: Oct. 25

Please include title, date(s), location, phone number
and/or Web site url.

Photos (300 dpi or hard copies) are welcome.

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Raleigh, NC 27611 | Fax: (919) 878-3970 | e-mail:
carolina.country@ncmcs.com

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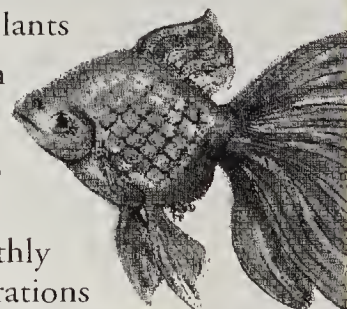
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www.drfieldbrush.com

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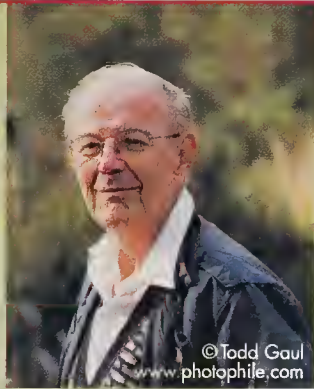
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get a head start this month on next year's weeds by destroying those that are still in the garden before they produce seeds. For fall color in flowerbeds and borders, sow seeds before late September. These heat-tolerant plants are among the most desired choices: Madagascar periwinkle, marigold, zinnia and portulaca. Harvest vegetables frequently to prolong the bearing season. These include: okra, cucumbers, beans, tomatoes, squash, peppers and eggplants.

Repair ground covers

Perennial ground covers such as ajuga, periwinkle and English ivy may be less attractive now than earlier in the year. If so, this is the time to rework the bed and make needed repairs. If dead patches showed a lack of spreading, the problem is due to soil compaction. To correct, remove dead plants, add peat moss or ground bark and complete fertilizer. Spade area, thoroughly mixing peat moss and fertilizer. Dig up young vigorous clumps of ground cover and plant in the prepared soil. Water deeply so that plants can get off to a good start.

Hot spot flowers

Summer heat need not cause a lull in colorful garden displays. Some flowers actually thrive on a diet of heat and dry soil. Portulaca (moss rose) is the showiest and easiest of these types to grow. Both single and double forms produce blooms of many brilliant hues. Seeds are available in separate colors. Moss rose is especially effective as a low-edging or border plant. It's well adapted to poor soil and re-seeds in profusion. *Gazania*, a half-hardy perennial, is another colorful and versatile flower. It's excellent for summer bedding in window, porch or deck boxes. *Gazania* blooms quite freely throughout the summer. It thrives on heat and drought and is especially effective in rock gardens.


However, few plants thrive and flower as well as *lantana*. It is especially abundant in such hot, difficult conditions as the narrow spaces between concrete and brick sidewalks. Plants thrive over winter



Drought-tolerant New Gold lantana blooms steadily.

in most areas. It's advisable to cover lantana when temperature forecasts are below freezing. Seeds are lazy to germinate, so many gardeners purchase started plants. Other flowers that will tolerate hot, dry locations include: periwinkle, yarrow, anthemis, African daisy (arctotis), California poppy, calliopsis, gaillardia, candytuft, red flax and cosmos.

Re-pot house plants

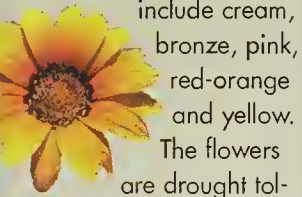
Re-pot houseplants if they have become root-bound in their containers. Place into a larger container using sterile soil mix to supply plants with good aeration and water-and-nutrient holding capacity. Work crushed egg shells into soil for a good source of calcium for healthy plant growth. 

GARDENING FACTS

Focus on GAZANIA

The half-hardy perennial *gazania* flowers from summer to early fall. Colors include cream, bronze, pink, red-orange and yellow. The flowers are drought tolerant and favor sunny locations. They grow to a height of 6 to 12 inches and should be spaced 8 inches apart. The variety pictured is Golden Margarita.

Courtesy of NC Cooperative Extension,
www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/



HORT shorts

✂ Crepe myrtles can endure two months without water around their roots.

✂ Mondo, sometimes called monkey grass, is closely related to liriop. Mondo has a more compact growth habit. It's useful as fine-textured ground cover. It spreads rapidly to cover bare areas of shady lawns; however, Mondo will not tolerate foot traffic.

Container-grown nursery stock can be set out all summer long. Water weekly until established.

✂ Now is a good time to move bearded iris since it is essentially dormant. Lift clumps from ground with a garden fork. Break or cut apart the thick roots to make several plants. Each root division should have a fan of leaves. Fertilize in spring with slow-release fertilizer high in phosphorus.

✂ Three elements cultivated soil often lacks include nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. All three are available in commercial fertilizers.

✂ Malnourished plants will develop yellow leaves. This paleness of color is corrected by applying Ironite, available at garden centers. Apply as directed on the label.

✂ Order tulips bulbs before mid-October for next spring's garden. Refrigerate bulbs at

35 to 40 degrees F. for 60 days. Plant bulbs immediately after removing from storage.

✂ Grass can literally be cut to death during hot summer weather. Close mowing of lawns during hot, dry weather weakens grass, allowing crabgrass and other weeds to establish.

✂ Plan to move tomato bed for next year's crop to reduce the chance of diseases carried over in soil.

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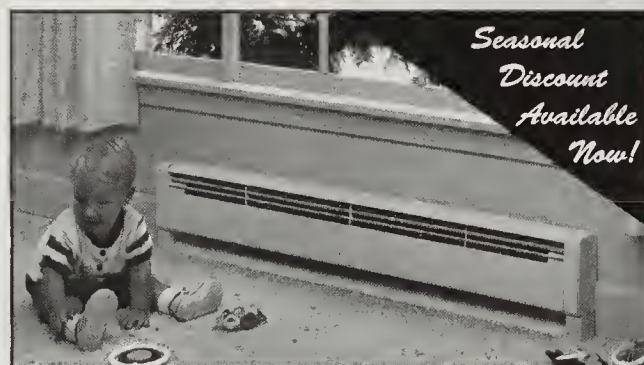
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Nutty Apple Salad

- 2 cups cubed tart apples
- 2 cups thinly sliced celery
- 2 cups halved seedless grapes
- 1 cup miniature marshmallows
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup cold evaporated milk
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon vanilla extract
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon sugar
- 3 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 3 tablespoons peanut butter
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup mixed nuts, optional

In a large bowl, combine apples, celery, grapes and marshmallows. In a chilled mixing bowl, beat milk until frothy. Add sugar and vanilla. Beat in mayonnaise and peanut butter. Pour over apple mixture; stir until coated. Cover and refrigerate. Just before serving, stir in nuts if desired.

Yield: 12 – 14 servings.

Baked Apples in Caramel Cream

- 3 tablespoons brown sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup hot water
- 4 large Rome beauty apples, cored
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 12 caramels
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup whipping cream

Combine brown sugar and water in an 8-inch square baking dish. Peel the top half of each apple; brush with lemon juice. Place in the baking dish. Fill each with three caramels. Bake at 350 degrees for 60 – 65 minutes or until apples are tender, basting every 20 minutes. Carefully lift apples, allowing any caramel in centers to drip into pan, and place in individual dessert dishes. Pour sauce into a small saucepan; add cream. Cook and stir over medium-low heat until sauce is smooth and thick. Spoon over apples; serve immediately.

Yield: 4 servings.

Candy Apple Pie

- 6 cups thinly sliced peeled tart apples
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup all-purpose flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ground cinnamon or nutmeg
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- Pastry for double-crust pie (9 inches)
- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine

Topping:

- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter or margarine
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup packed brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons whipping cream
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped pecans

In a bowl, toss apples with lime juice. Combine dry ingredients; add apples and toss. Line a 9-inch pie plate with bottom pastry; trim to 1 inch beyond edge of pie plate. Add filling; dot with butter. Roll out remaining pastry to fit top of pie; place over filling. Trim, seal and flute edges high. Cut slits in top. Bake at 400 degrees for 40-45 minutes or until golden and apples are tender. Meanwhile, melt butter in a small saucepan. Stir in brown sugar and cream; bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and stir in pecans. Pour over top crust. Bake 3-4 minutes more or until bubbly. Serve warm.

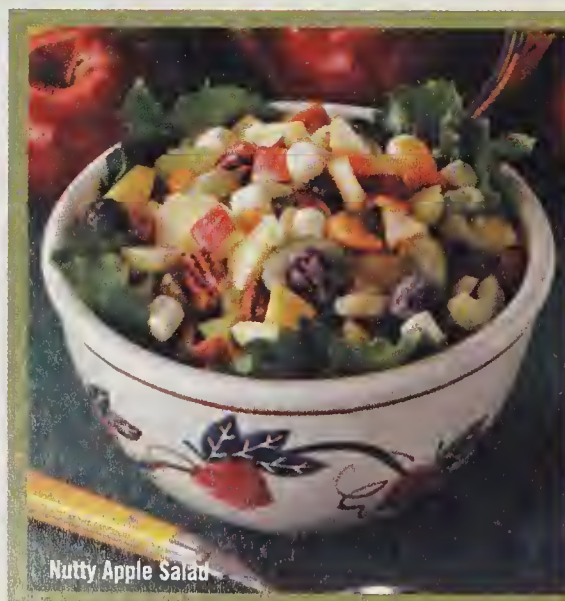
Yield: 8 servings.

Blue-Ribbon Apple Cake

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- $2\frac{1}{4}$ cups sugar, divided
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
- 4 eggs
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup orange juice
- $2\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons vanilla extract
- 4 medium baking apples, peeled and thinly sliced
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- Confectioners' sugar

In a mixing bowl, combine flour, 2 cups sugar, baking powder and salt. Combine eggs, oil, orange juice and vanilla; add to flour mixture and mix well. In a bowl, toss apples with cinnamon and remaining sugar. Spread a third of the batter into a greased 10-inch tube pan. Top with half the apples. Repeat layers. Carefully spread remaining batter over apples. Bake at 350 degrees for 55 to 65 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool in pan 15 minutes before removing to a wire rack; cool. Dust with confectioners' sugar.

Yield: 16 servings.



Nutty Apple Salad



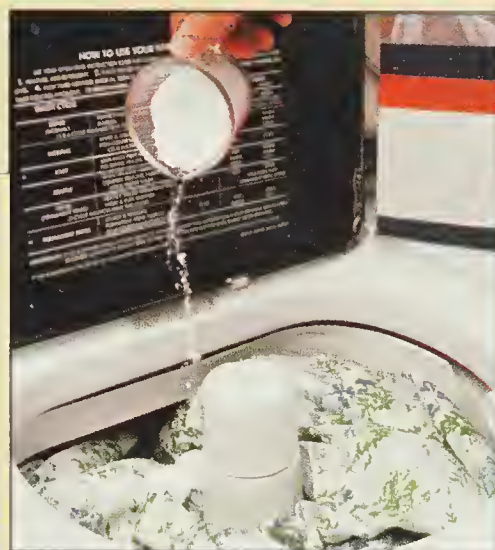
Candy Apple Pie



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- ▶ Doggy-do messing up your garden? Mix up a little of this garlic brew, and Fido will never come back into your yard.
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- ▶ The fresh whipped cream on your pie stays fluffy all throughout the church social. Nobody has to know your secret is confectioners' sugar.
- ▶ Keep bread soft and fresh longer with this easy storage secret. Hint: You'll need a piece of celery.
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- ▶ How to protect new grass seed from hungry birds with an old screen door or window.
- ▶ How to silence a dripping faucet when you don't have time to fix it ... with a piece of string.
- ▶ Prevent a frozen keyhole in your car's door the next time it dips below freezing ... with a refrigerator magnet.
- ▶ Ketchup makes copper gleam better than any polish.
- ▶ Loose shoes fit again with a cup of water.
- ▶ Whip up fluffier omelets and scrambled eggs with cornstarch.
- ▶ Sharpen a sewing needle without removing it from the machine. It's easy with sandpaper.
- ▶ Get 50% more light from your light bulbs with an old rag.
- ▶ Fluff up a saggy comforter with a pair of old sneakers.
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